



Archaeological excavation at Sites F & G Weedon Road, Upton, Northamptonshire: Assessment Report and Updated Project Design May to July 2012

Report No: 13/128

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James Ladocha



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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		OASIS No: molanort1-174886
Project title	An archaeological excavation on land at Sites F and G, Weedon Road, Upton, Northamptonshire	
Short description	<p>Archaeological excavation was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology between May 2012 and July 2012, on behalf of Keepmoat Homes. An area of Iron Age and Roman settlement was recorded that formed part of a wider landscape of rural settlement on the south facing slope of the Nene valley. The earliest features were a small number of early Neolithic pits, a single early Iron Age pit preceded the construction of a long-maintained middle to late Iron Age boundary and associated settlement. This settlement was replaced by enclosures and ditch systems in the early Romano-British period. The rural settlement was maintained and modified through to the 3rd century AD, evidence for continuation into the latest years of the Romano-British period in the 4th century was not recovered and it is likely that the area was abandoned in the later 3rd century AD.</p> <p>The core of the settlement associated with these features was not identified within the boundaries of the development area, although the presence of a mid Romano-British corndryer oven and a large well indicates that their homes were likely to be in the vicinity. It is possible that low ground impact buildings had been present that left little trace in the archaeological record.</p>	
Project type	Excavation	
Site status	Scrubland (formerly arable land)	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey NA 1999, Trial trenching 1999, Excavation 2000	
Current land use	Scrubland (formerly arable land)	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type/period	Iron Age and Roman settlement	
Significant finds	Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, animal bone, cremated human bone; ceramic building material; glass; industrial waste;	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address	Land off Weedon Road, Upton, Northamptonshire	
Study area	2.8 ha	
OS Easting & Northing	SP 7215 6021	
Height OD	77 to 84m OD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Northamptonshire County Council	
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	Liz Muldowney/Carol Simmonds and Laszlo Lichtenstein	
Project Managers	Adam Yates and Anthony Maull	
Sponsor or funding body	Keepmoat Homes	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	16 May 2012	
End date	31 July 2012	
ARCHIVES	Location	Content
Physical	Project code: WEUP 12	Pottery; animal bone, metalwork, slag, cbm, cremated bone; photographs; plans and sections on permatrace
Paper		Site records; background data
Digital		Survey data; reports; digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)		
Title	An archaeological excavation at Sites F and G, Weedon Road, Upton, Northamptonshire: Assessment and UPD	
Serial title & volume	13/128	
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION
AT SITES F AND G, WEEDON ROAD, UPTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE:
ASSESSMENT REPORT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

Abstract

Archaeological excavation was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology between May 2012 and July 2012, on behalf of Keepmoat Homes. An area of Iron Age and Roman settlement was recorded that formed part of a wider landscape of rural settlement on the south facing slope of the Nene valley. The earliest features were a small number of early Neolithic pits, a single early Iron Age pit preceded the construction of a long-maintained middle to late Iron Age boundary and associated settlement. This settlement was replaced by enclosures and ditch systems in the early Romano-British period. The rural landscape was maintained and modified through to the 3rd century AD, evidence for continuation into the latest years of the Romano-British period in the 4th century was not recovered and it is likely that the area was abandoned in the later 3rd century AD.

The core of the settlement associated with these features was not identified within the boundaries of the development area, although the presence of a mid Romano-British corndryer oven and a large well indicates that their homes were likely to be in the vicinity. It is possible that low ground impact buildings had been present that left little trace in the archaeological record.

1 INTRODUCTION

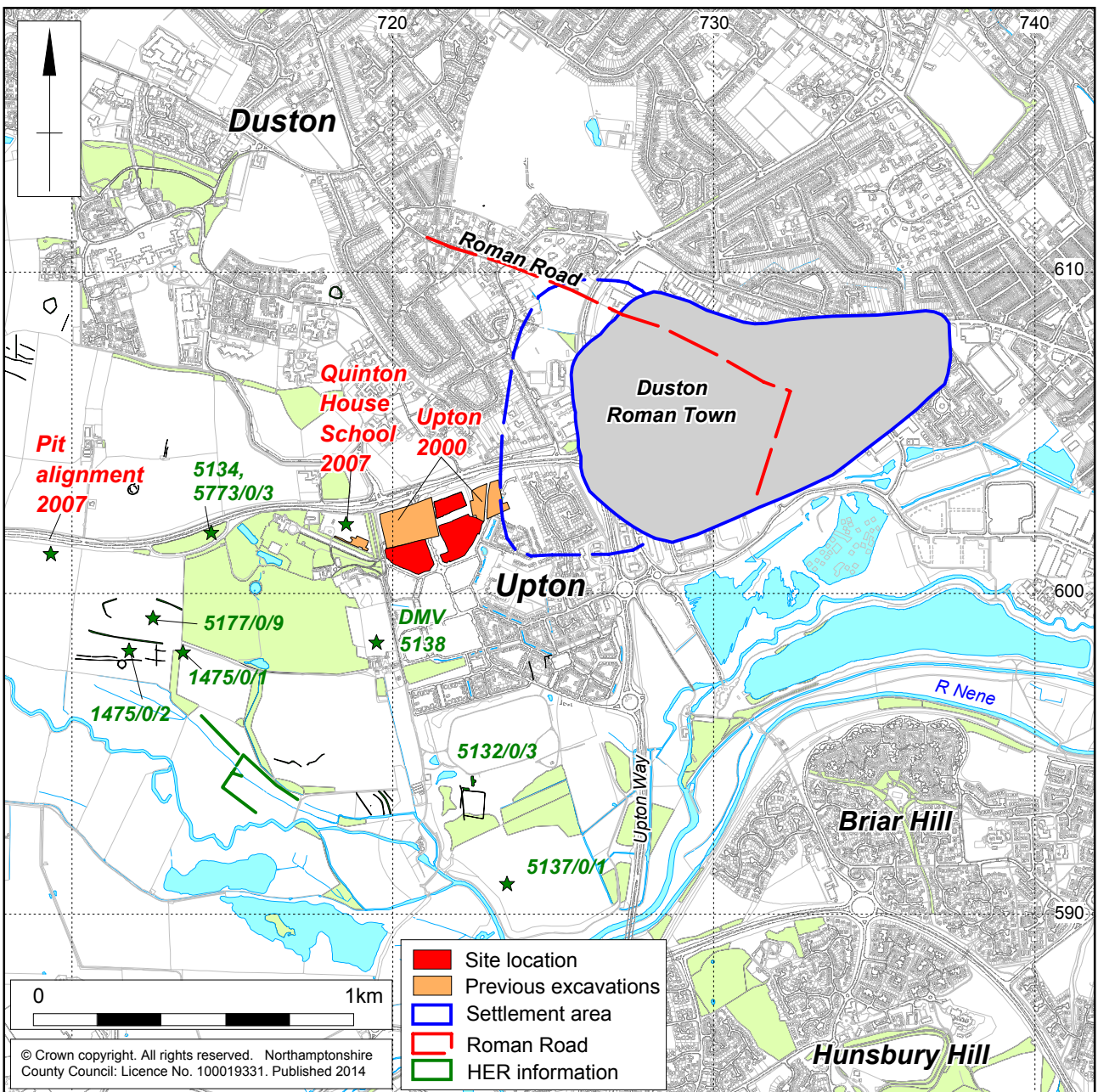
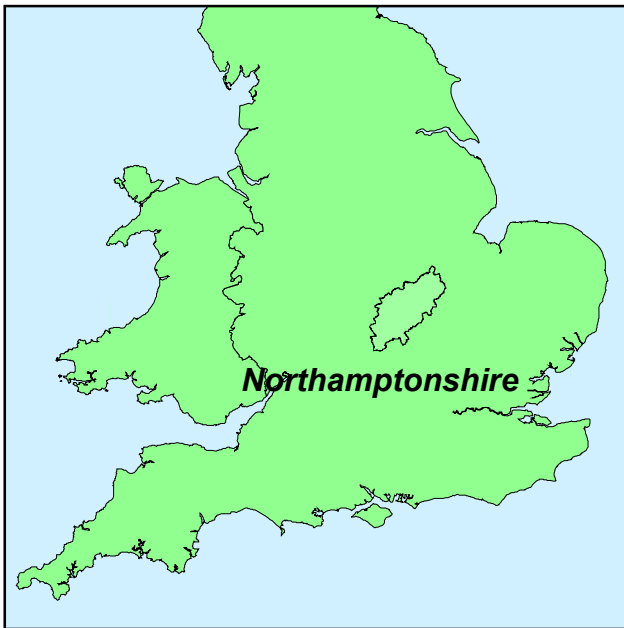
1.1 Background

Keepmoat Homes commissioned Northamptonshire Archaeology (now trading as MOLA) to undertake archaeological mitigation work on the proposed development site on land off Weedon Road, Upton, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 72150 60210, Fig 1). The works were required as mitigation following a previous geophysical survey (Shaw 1990) and trial trench evaluation (Prentice 1999) in response to a planning application for mixed use development (10/0046/FULWNN).

In accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012), Northamptonshire County Council have required that the impact of development on heritage assets present on the site to be mitigated through a programme of archaeological investigation and recording, leading to analysis and publication of the results. The scope of these works is set out in a brief prepared by NCC (Mather 2012).

1.2 Site location and topography and geology

The site is located within land allocated for development and, though formerly comprising arable fields, has been fallow for a number of years and subject to landscaping associated with residential development to the south. It is bounded by the A4500, Weedon Road, to the north and housing development to the east and south. To the west is Upton Lane and Quinton House School. A number of new roads have been adopted across the site in advance of development. The ground slopes gently to the south towards the River Nene, which is about 1.5km from the site. The ground lies at c 77-85m above Ordnance Datum.



Scale 1:20,000

Site Location Fig 1

The underlying geology of the site is composed of Northampton Sand with gravel at the extreme north-eastern part of the site and Glacial Lake Clays over the majority of the excavated area to the south.

1.3 Historical and archaeological background

The prehistoric and Roman settlements at Upton are part of a wider landscape of known sites situated on the valley slopes of the Upper Nene Basin (Figs 1 and 2).

Mesolithic to early Iron Age activity

Although present day fieldwalking on and around the site has recovered only a scattering of prehistoric flints, an estimated 25,000 implements and cores dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age were recovered from an area of around 50ha at Duston during ironstone extraction between 1904 and 1912. The Mesolithic site at Duston is only one of two in the county known in national literature; the other is at Honey Hill near Cold Ashby (Phillips 2004). Early Mesolithic material was also recovered during excavations at Chalk Lane, Northampton (Williams and Shaw 1981).

There are also large amounts of Neolithic flintwork in the Duston assemblage, though there is little accompanying settlement evidence in the area. There is a putative Neolithic mortuary enclosure to the west of the site, although no corroborative dating was found (Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER) 1475/0/2; Jackson 1993/1994; Fig 1). The Briar Hill causewayed enclosure, which was respected from the early Neolithic to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age, lay on the facing slopes to the south of the river, below Hunsbury Hill (Bamford 1985).

A number of pit alignments, often dated to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age and interpreted as territorial boundary markers, have been recorded in the wider vicinity of the site. Recent excavation at Quinton House School, some 100m to the west of the site, has revealed a continuation of the pit alignment found at Upton in the 2000 excavation (Foard-Colby and Walker 2007). A pit alignment located and partly excavated during the construction of the Cross Valley Link Road (CVLR) c1km to the west of the site may converge with the pit alignment at Upton as it runs towards the site on an east-west axis (Carlyle 2010). Geophysical survey and evaluation work in the fields between the CVLR and Quinton House showed that there were two divergent pit alignments linking these areas in the area to the north of a Bronze Age barrow (Mason 2011). Further afield, two separate pit alignments were recorded at Briar Hill, one running tangentially off the Neolithic causewayed enclosure and another some 300m to the south (Bamford 1985 and Jackson 1974). To the south-east, a pit alignment is known from geophysical survey at Wootton Fields. The precinct wall of a Roman villa ran closely parallel to the alignment, suggesting that the boundary persisted into the Roman period (Chapman *et al* 2005). Further pit alignments have been observed at Kingsheath/Dallington, again in the vicinity of a Neolithic causewayed enclosure.

Middle to late Iron Age

One of the most prominent Iron Age monuments in the area is that of Hunsbury Hillfort, c2.5km to the south-east (Fig 2). The hillfort was built in the early-middle Iron Age and was probably abandoned at some time in the late Iron Age. Many unfinished iron objects found at the site suggest that it may have served as a centre for the local production of iron. However, there is no evidence of iron smelting having taken place at the hillfort itself, even though it is located on good sources of workable ironstone (Jackson 1993/4). A collection of 124 querns in Northampton Museum are thought to have come from the hillfort. The stones derive from many different places within

England, indicating that Hunsbury had wide-ranging contacts and must have been a site of some importance (Ingle 1993/4).

A number of possibly contemporary Iron Age sites also occupied the Hunsbury ridge, including enclosures examined during the excavation of the causewayed enclosure at Briar Hill (Bamford 1985). Two distinctive, defended enclosures excavated at Wootton Hill Farm (Jackson 1988/9) and Briar Hill, belong to a group located on higher ground along the main river valleys (Holmes and Chapman 2005).

Other Iron Age settlement on the ridge appeared to be taking advantage of the ironstone outcrops for smelting. A group of Iron Age pits was recorded during the widening of the A45, 750m to the west of the site (HER 5134; Jackson *et al* 1969). They were adjacent to, and probably associated with, some ditches that seemed to have formed the north-eastern corner of an enclosure and may have been the result of domestic activity.

A sub-square enclosure, visible as a cropmark and subsequently investigated, is located to the south of the site on the Nene floodplain (HER 5132/0/3; Jackson 1993/4). There was no associated dating evidence but it is thought to have been Iron Age or Roman in origin. Linear ditches forming field boundaries and enclosures to the south-west of the site have been dated broadly to the Iron Age (Mason 2011). Further linear features to the north have been interpreted as Saxon or medieval in origin, but may date to the same period (5177/0/9).

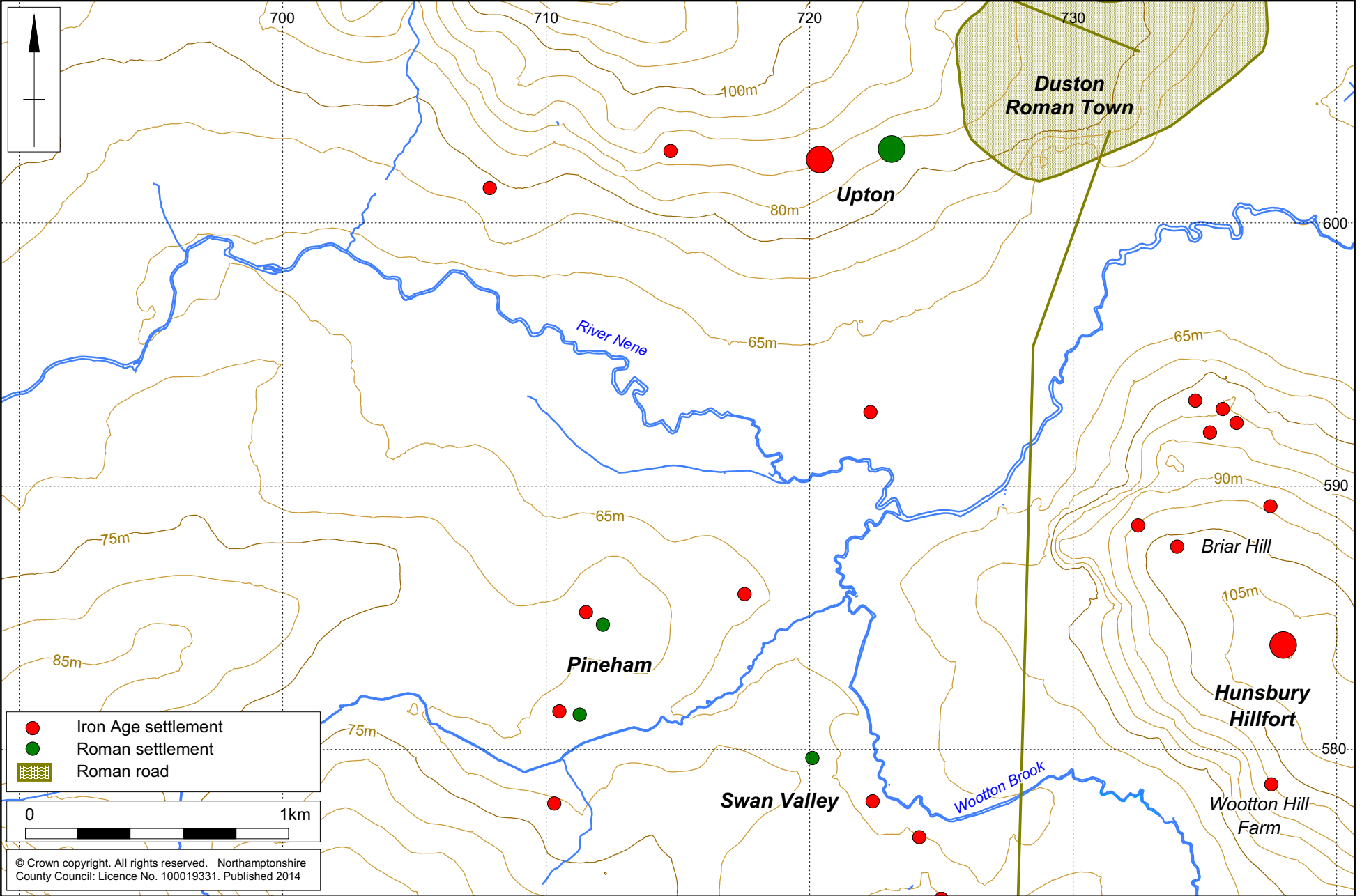
A large sub-square enclosure, dated to the middle Iron Age, has been excavated to the immediate west at Quinton House (Foard-Colby and Butler 2006 and Foard-Colby and Walker 2007). Here there was a roundhouse within an enclosure also containing numerous pits and postholes. The Quinton House enclosure appears to respect the same linear boundary system as the Upton settlement, indicating that the Upton enclosures form part of a wider settlement area, that may extend even further westward.

A significant later Iron Age settlement focus at Duston probably replaced Hunsbury hillfort as a centre for social/economic activity in the area (Friendship-Taylor 1999). It was clearly an important economic centre, as evidenced by the comparatively large amount of coins that have been found here. Unfortunately, most of the site has been destroyed, principally by ironstone quarrying in the 19th century.

Further afield, a middle to late Iron Age settlement has been located c2km to the south-west at Pineham Barn (Brown 2007; Fig 2). There were also large agglomerated settlements to the north and east at Ecton/Sywell, the Bramptons, Wilby Way, Wellingborough and at Wollaston. It can be postulated that further settlement was located further downstream, to the east of Upton, and has since been lost by the development of Northampton.

Roman

The Roman settlement at Duston developed during the 1st century AD and was focused on at least two roads, one from *Bannaventa* (Whilton Locks), c10km to the north-west, and one from *Lactodorum* (Towcester), c15km to the south (Fig 2). It eventually became one of the more significant undefended nucleated settlements in the county. The settlement was composed of a series of *'irregularly shaped ditched enclosures laid out to either side of the main roads within which stood first timber then stone buildings of simple form fronting on to the roads'* (Taylor 2002). The settlement is poorly understood due to the lack of targeted excavation and large-scale destruction by mining in the 19th century. It appears to have been in use up to the



The topography and the distribution of Iron Age and Roman sites around Upton Fig 2

4th century and seems to have functioned as an agricultural and commercial centre. The coin evidence from the site may suggest that it had a significant role in monetary exchange. There has been no specific evidence suggesting any craft specialisation.

The excavations in 2000 revealed evidence for a reorganization of the landscape within the development area in the early Romano-British period (late 1st to early 2nd century AD) with the construction of rectilinear ditch systems and a number of small enclosures. This settlement was primarily to the east of the earlier Iron Age settlement and continued to be occupied into the 4th century AD (Walker and Maull 2010).

Saxon and medieval

Early/middle Saxon settlement features have been found to the west of the current site (HER 5773/0/3). A sunken featured building (SFB) was found during the widening of the A45 in 1965. The building contained more than 60 loomweights and it was interpreted as a weaving shed, rather than a domestic building, which was eventually destroyed by fire (Jackson *et al* 1969). More evidence of SFBs and posthole buildings were found during evaluation about 200m further to the north (Shaw 1993/4). These features may form separate elements within a dispersed early/middle Saxon settlement pattern.

The Roman settlement at Duston does not seem to have continued into the Saxon period, and by the middle Saxon period the main core of settlement had migrated to the east, into present day central Northampton.

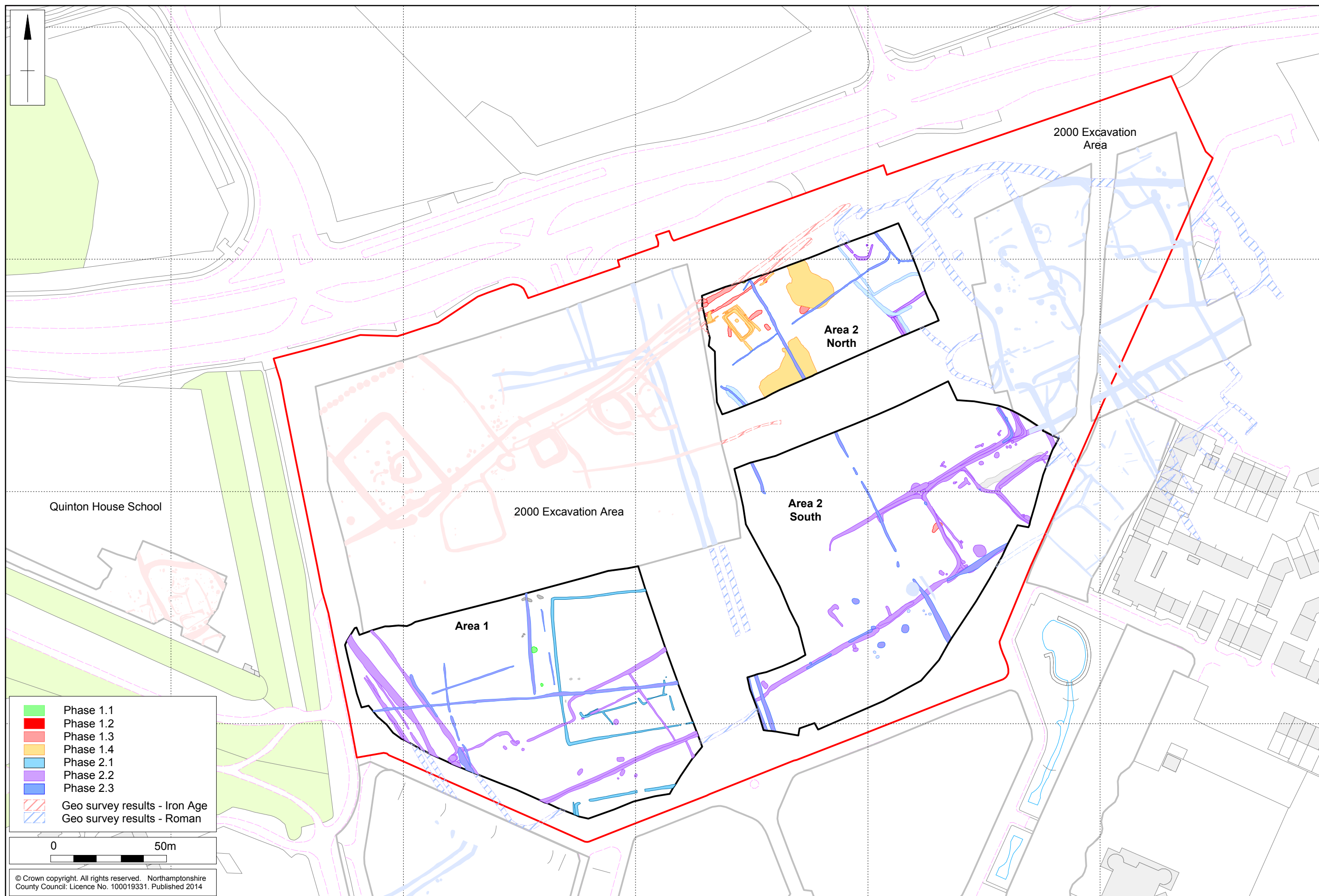
To the immediate west of the site is Upton Park. The walled area of the park contains the remains of Upton deserted medieval village to the south, medieval fishponds and ridge and furrow to the west, as well as the still upstanding Upton Hall and St Michael's Church to the north (HER 5138). The medieval manor house probably stood on the same site as the present Hall, but no medieval fabric survives within it (RCHME 1985).

A ring ditch on the Nene floodplain to the south of the site was, as a result of trial trench evaluation, thought more likely to be the remains of a medieval post-mill than a Bronze Age round barrow (HER 5137/0/1; Jackson 1993/4).

1.4 Scope of mitigation works

The mitigation strategy was designed by Lesley-Ann Mather, Northamptonshire County Council Archaeological Adviser, in consultation with the client, Keepmoat Homes and MOLA.

A programme of open excavation was undertaken as requested by the County Archaeological Advisor (Mather 2012). The excavation area represents c 4.5ha of land previously only subject to archaeological evaluation including trial trench evaluation and geophysical survey (Prentice 1999). It was divided into three separate areas (Areas 1, 2 North and 2 South; Fig 3). Area 1 was separated from Area 2 by a road leading from Weedon Road to the north down to the new housing development to the south; Sites F and G are the final parcels of land to be developed within this block. Area 2 was divided in two by the stand off area for a putative gas main (Fig 3). Area 1 was located immediately to the south of the predominantly Iron Age settlement excavated in 2000 (also identified as Area 1). Area 2 was located immediately to the west and south of the previously excavated Romano-British settlement.



1.5 Excavation methodology

Removal of the topsoil and other overburden was carried out by tracked 360-degree mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, operating under archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation proceeded to the natural substrate or the first significant archaeological horizon.

All works were carried out in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (2010), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2008). All works conformed to English Heritage procedural documents *Management of Archaeological Projects 2nd edition* (1991) and *Management of Research projects in the Historic Environment* (2006). Site recording procedures followed Northamptonshire Archaeology's in-house Archaeological Fieldwork Manual (NA 2011).

The excavation areas was measured in and marked out prior to the commencement of work using Leica System 1200 GPS operating to an accuracy of +/- 0.05m to Ordnance Survey National Grid. The spoil heaps and excavated areas were scanned with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.

The location of all archaeological features and deposits were plotted using a survey grade GPS (Leica System 1200) operating to an accuracy of +/- 0.05m to produce a base plan. All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered were fully recorded following standard Northamptonshire Archaeology procedures (NA 2011).

The excavation method followed the standards set out in the WSI (NA 2012) which in turn followed the brief provided by the Northamptonshire County Council Archaeological Advisor (Mather 2012).

2 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the work was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting.

The general aims of the investigation were to:

- Establish the date, nature and extent of the activity or occupation on the development site;
- Recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- Recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine past local environmental conditions.

Specific research objectives have been drawn from national and regional research frameworks documents (English Heritage 1991 and Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012, replacing Cooper 2006) in order to enhance our understanding of the Bronze Age to Roman activity on site. The specific research objectives listed below are those thought to be appropriate before the excavation took place, it is part of the purpose of the post-excavation assessment and updated research design to review these research aims and amend and add to them as appropriate: The updated research aims are in Section 8.3 below.

- Investigating the spatial extent, morphology and function of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age activity at Upton;

- Refining understanding of how the field and boundary systems of Roman period relate to the earlier systems of land allotment;
- Examining the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems in the Roman period;
- Refining our understanding of the Iron Age/Roman settlement patterns at Upton;
- How the Iron Age and Roman activity related to the nearby 'small town' at Duston.

Further potential research themes were also identified from the research objectives outlined in Knight *et al* (especially 4.5, 4.6, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 5.2, 5.4 and 5.5).

3 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

Archaeological features were encountered across all excavated areas, increasing in density from the south-west to the eastern and northern parts of the development area (Fig 3). The archaeological remains primarily consist of ditches, pits and gullies with a small number of postholes and other feature types including a well, corndryer, quarry pits and trackways.

3.1 Phasing

Three main periods of occupation have been identified:

Period 1: Prehistoric (4000 BC to mid 1st century AD)

Period 2: Romano-British (mid 1st century AD to late 3rd century AD)

Period 3: Medieval to post-medieval (14th century to 19th century AD)

Periods 1 and 2 have been subdivided into separate phases. For the prehistoric period most of the activity takes place in the mid to late Iron Age (2nd to early 1st century BC) with some earlier and later elements present. For the Roman period the ceramic assemblage suggests that following some later 1st century AD landscape changes the major period of use for the site was during the 2nd century AD continuing into the 3rd century AD but not much beyond. Following the Roman period there was no evidence for use till the adoption of the ridge and furrow cultivation system in the medieval period (Period 3). The phasing for the site has been examined in relation to the results of the excavations immediately to the east and west of the current development area (Walker and Maull 2010) and cross related where possible (Table 1). A summary of the phasing is presented below by period and then by phase where appropriate.

Period 1:

Phase 1.1 Early Neolithic (4000 BC to 3000 BC)

Phase 1.2 Early to middle Iron Age (6th to 4th/3rd century BC)

Phase 1.3 Middle to late Iron Age (2nd to early 1st century AD)

Phase 1.4 Late Iron Age (1st century BC to mid 1st century AD)

Period 2:

Phase 2.1 Early Romano-British (late 1st to early 2nd century AD)

Phase 2.2 Romano-British (2nd century AD)

Phase 2.3 Later Romano-British (3rd century AD)

Table 1: Phasing concordance 2000 and 2012 excavations

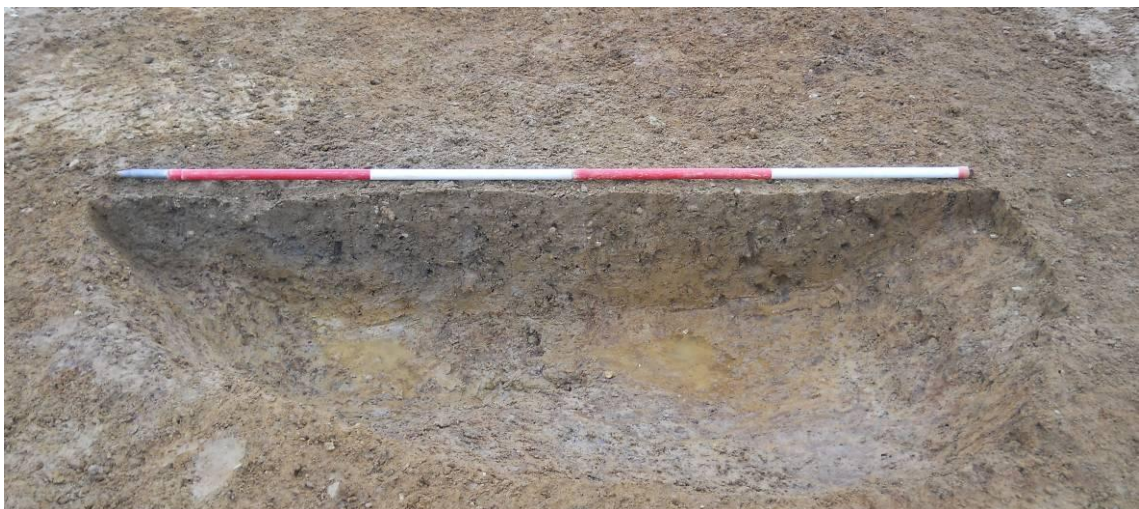
2012 Excavation Period/Phase	2000 Excavation Period/Phase	Phase description
1.1	Not represented	Two small pits, one containing a Neolithic flint group
Not represented	Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pits 8th to mid-6th centuries BC	Small pit group and isolated pit
1.2	Early/middle Iron Age pit alignment Possibly 6th to 4th/3rd centuries BC	Suspected early Iron Age origin, but pits still open at beginning of middle Iron Age
1.3	Middle/late Iron Age Settlement 2nd to early 1st centuries BC	Linear boundary with associated enclosures and a roundhouse
1.4	1st century BC to mid 1st century AD	Boundary redefined and new enclosures set out
2.1	Roman settlement None identified	Initial enclosure layout
2.2	2nd/3rd century AD (2nd century 2012)	Rectilinear enclosures
2.3	3rd/4th century AD (3rd century 2012)	Large fields/enclosures
Not represented	3rd/4th century AD	Continued use of large enclosures
3	Medieval activity	Part of medieval field system of Upton deserted village

3.2 Period 1: Prehistoric pits, boundaries and settlement

Prehistoric activity within the development area was sparse until the mid to late Iron Age when a major boundary was constructed and a small settlement developed. Prior to this, activity was confined to a very small number of isolated pits dating from the early Neolithic and early to mid Iron Age respectively.

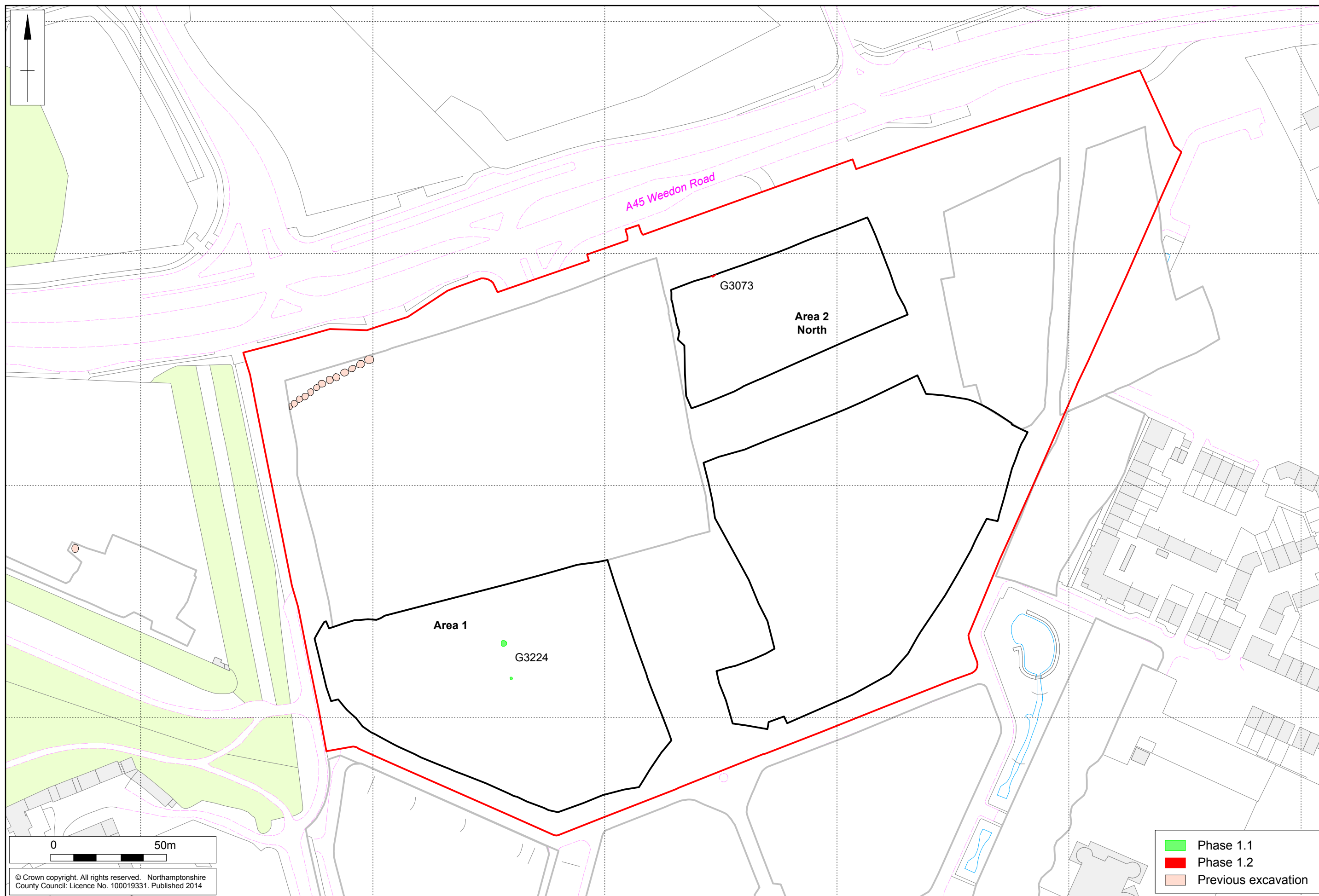
Phase 1.1: Early Neolithic pits (4000 to 3000 BC)

This phase comprises two small pits in Area 1 (G3224, Figs 4 and 5). Both pits had a similar leached appearance and an 'ashy' texture. The soil samples from pit [1320] (Samples 14 and 15) were generally unproductive. A group of eight worked flints were recovered from the lower fill, this group includes seven flakes struck from the same nodule indicating primary deposition of debitage, in association with a small blade struck from a stone axe. This group is indicative of early Neolithic workmanship. The sample also contained very small pellets of hard grey overfired clay, this material was also noted in the otherwise undated pit [1183] and therefore both are presumed to be contemporary.



Early Neolithic pit [1320] in pit group G3224, looking south

Fig 4



Phase 1.2: Early to middle Iron Age pit (7th to 4th/3rd century BC)

A squarish pit (G3073) located at the very northern edge of the site (Fig 5 and Fig 6), containing no artefacts, predated part of the middle to late Iron Age boundary ditch sequence. Morphologically the eroded, steep-sided, flat-based pit was similar to the thirteen pits recorded in Area 1 in the 2000 Excavation that formed part of a linear pit alignment (Walker and Maull 2010). This pit was south of a projected linear continuation of the south-west to north-east pit alignment, however, it is not known whether the pit alignment continued on the same bearing to the north-east or whether it followed the natural landscape contours and therefore might have been more sinuous. It is possible that pit G3073 was associated with, but was not necessarily part of, the pit alignment which has been dated to the early to middle Iron Age.

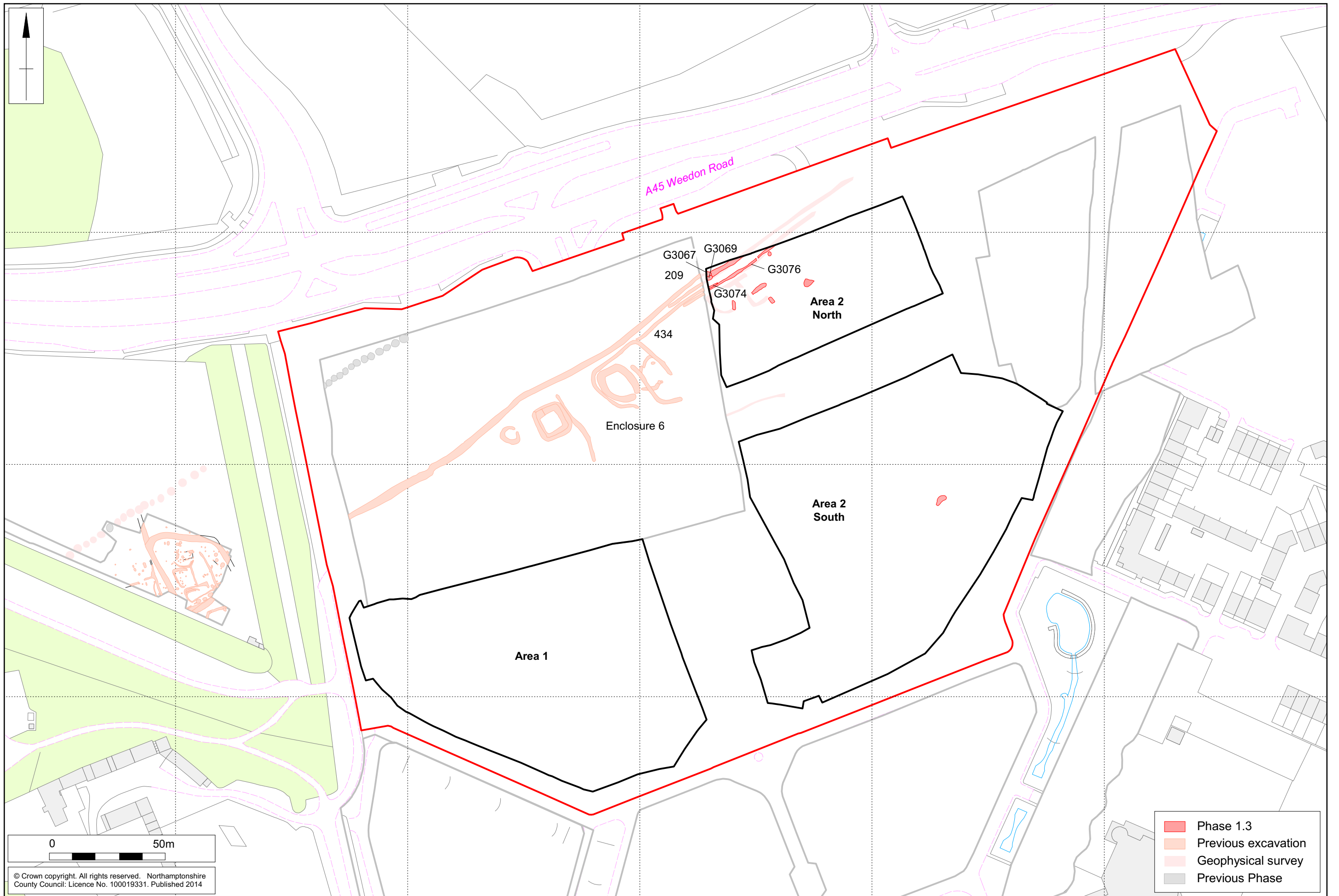


Early Iron Age pit G3073, looking north-west

Fig 6

Phase 1.3: Middle to late Iron Age boundary (2nd to early 1st century BC)

This phase comprises the construction, modification and maintenance of a sinuous linear boundary aligned south-west to north-east at the northern end of Area 2 North. This boundary is associated with the establishment of a small settlement, in the area immediately to the west of the current development area, in the 2nd century BC. In the earlier excavation there was a single continuous fairly wide ditch measuring 182m long with three further narrower ditches on its south side at the eastern end of the excavation area which terminated to the south-west, one close to and associated with Enclosure 6 (Fig 7). None had evidence for recutting or alteration. The boundary was parallel to but 50m to the south of the pit alignment at the transition between the permeable and non permeable geologies, suggesting some continuity in the Iron Age landscape (Walker and Maull 2010).



In the current excavation there were ten identified modifications of the boundary ditch, four of which matched reasonably well with the previous excavated features (Fig 7). The other six were either not present or were not observed in the difficult ground conditions experienced during the earlier excavations. None of the boundary ditches or the pits assigned to this phase produced any datable artefacts from this period, they are included here by analogy to the better dated features from the excavation to the west and through stratigraphic relationships.

Initial layout of boundary

There were seven versions of the northernmost boundary ditch, none of which contained any datable material and only two of which corresponded to a previously recorded element of the boundary in the excavations to the west. These early versions varied in extent, breadth and depth and suggest that the boundary was not always a continuous entity but would have had gaps in its line that varied as it was recut.

Ditch terminal G3067 was the continuation of ditch 209 recorded to the west, however, this ditch was recorded as being only 0.19m deep when excavated at its north-east end in 2000 (Walker and Maull 2010) but the terminal here was c0.8m deep. Its replacement (G3069) was the continuation of a ditch segment to the west measuring 23m in total length. This ditch segment forms the start of a slight shift to the south in the boundary that continued into the later Iron Age. A single sherd of late 1st-century AD pottery was recovered from the upper fill of this ditch terminal but is likely to have been intrusive.

Boundary shifts to the south

Ditch G3074 was the continuation of ditch 434 recorded in the excavation to the west and formed a segment measuring approximately 42m extending north-east from the north-east corner of Enclosure 6. This feature had no stratigraphic relationship to the ditches to the north, however, the results of the earlier excavation suggest that there was a temporal shift to the south in the boundary line and therefore this feature is presumed to be later than those to the north.

The boundary was again recut to the south (G3076). The south-west terminal had shifted further to the north-east and the ditch was a minimum of 50m long. A small number of undated stratigraphically early pits might have been contemporary with either the earlier phases of the boundary or this shift to the south. Five of the pits were clustered in the northern part of Area 2, close to the boundary. Three of these were similar in form being sub-rectangular deep tank-like features. A single pit in Area 2 South is included because of its morphological similarity to these tank-like features.

Phase 1.4: Late Iron Age boundary and settlement (late 1st century BC to mid 1st century AD)

This phase comprises a further southern shift in the boundary, the construction of associated enclosures and the digging of a number of extraction pits. The majority of the activity within this phase was again constrained to the northern part of Area 2, with some evidence for extraction to the south. As with the previous phase the features recorded in this excavation are peripheral to, and associated with, the small settlement recorded to the west in the earlier excavation (Fig 8).

The boundary

The new boundary was believed to have been constructed either in the late 1st century BC or earlier part of the 1st century AD. It cut across all the earlier enclosures and structures dating from the mid to late Iron Age and three new enclosures (Enclosures 1, 2 and 7) were constructed in association with it (Walker and Maull 2010).

Two segments of ditch (G3078 and G3082) were recorded forming a discontinuous boundary. There was a 25m gap between the two segments, the boundary was the continuation of ditch 359 to the west. Neither segment produced any datable material.

A small irregular hollow was located immediately to the north of the boundary and was probably formed by erosion from footfall in a confined space; no trace of a structure was identified in association with it.

Enclosures

Enclosure 8 was constructed just to the south of and aligned with the reorganised boundary, and was probably contemporary with the latest version. Formed from three discontinuous, shallow, narrow segments it was either the north-west and north-east sides of an enclosure with the other sides missing or was an L-shaped partial enclosure designed to divert water flow on the uphill side of Enclosure 9. The remains of a channel-rim jar were recovered from one of the segments. Although the fabric of the vessel suggested an earlier Iron Age date the rim form is indicative of wares produced in the first half of the 1st century AD.

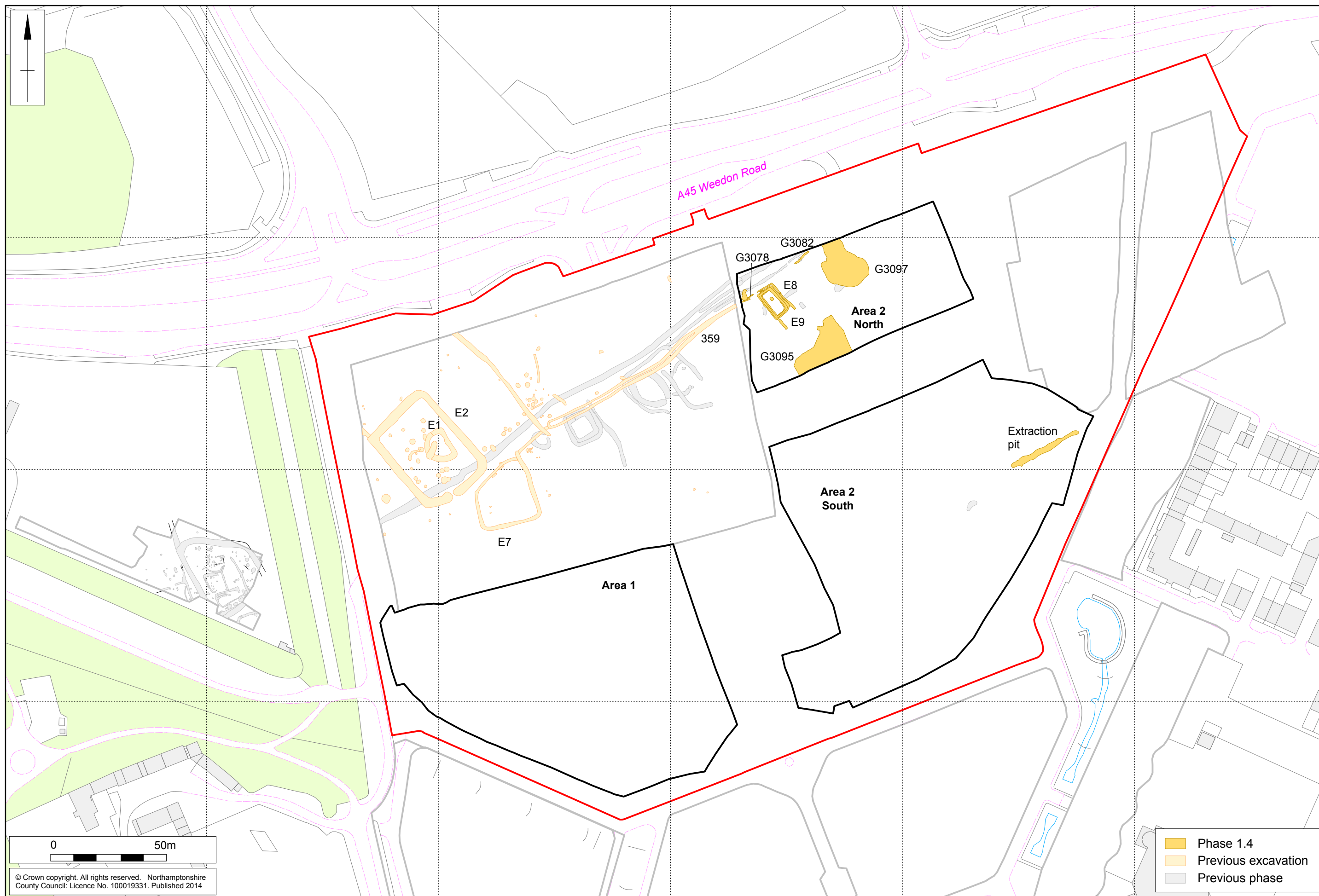
Enclosure 9 was set within partial Enclosure 8, and was rectangular in plan with no apparent entranceway. It was very small, measuring 4.5m east to west and 10m north to south, with an internal area of 45sq.m. Pottery recovered from the lower fill of the ditch was similar to that found in Enclosure 8, the upper fill contained Romano-British fabric types dating from between the late 1st and 2nd centuries AD that are likely to be intrusive.

A large shallow pit was located within Enclosure 9 and might have been associated with it. It contained a very small amount of late 1st century AD pottery in association with moderate quantities of late Iron Age pottery similar in fabric and condition to the channel-rim jar and thereby dating to the late pre-Roman Iron Age/transitional period. The pit contained a dump of charred remains derived from vegetation associated with an open grassland environment. The general absence of cereal remains suggests that this deposit might have been derived from burnt bedding or litter rather than cereal processing (Sample 22).

This enclosure was redefined within its original line, again with no apparent entranceway, and without expanding its internal area. The ditch contained a very small amount of Iron Age pottery and a single piece of late 1st century AD pottery. The enclosure was associated with a 5m long undated ditch segment aligned with its south-west corner, the function of this feature is unclear.

Extraction pits

Three areas of clay and or gravel extraction are thought to have been contemporary with the construction and use of Enclosures 8 and 9, however, it is possible that their origins were slightly earlier in the Iron Age. Two of the extraction areas (G3097 and G3095) were large and sub-rectangular with evidence for episodic strip-type extraction. A third extraction pit was located in the eastern part of Area 2 South and was a narrow irregular strip at the point where the gravelly-clays changed to the solid clay geology. This feature was thought to be an exploratory extraction pit that was never fully utilised, although there was some evidence for an attempt to shore up the down slope side to prevent the looser gravelly material from collapsing into the pit.



Extraction area G3095 was the only one to contain any datable material, containing a moderately large assemblage of Iron Age pottery, including part of a bowl thought to date from the 1st century BC, from the lowest, waterlogged, deposits towards the base of one of the deeper pits, more Iron Age pottery and a single sherd dated to the late 1st century AD was also recovered. Late 1st to 2nd century AD pottery was recovered from the upper fills, which had the appearance of inwashed colluvium, This suggests that the quarries were in use at the end of the Iron Age period possibly into the later 1st century AD, but were then left partially open and gradually silted up over centuries.

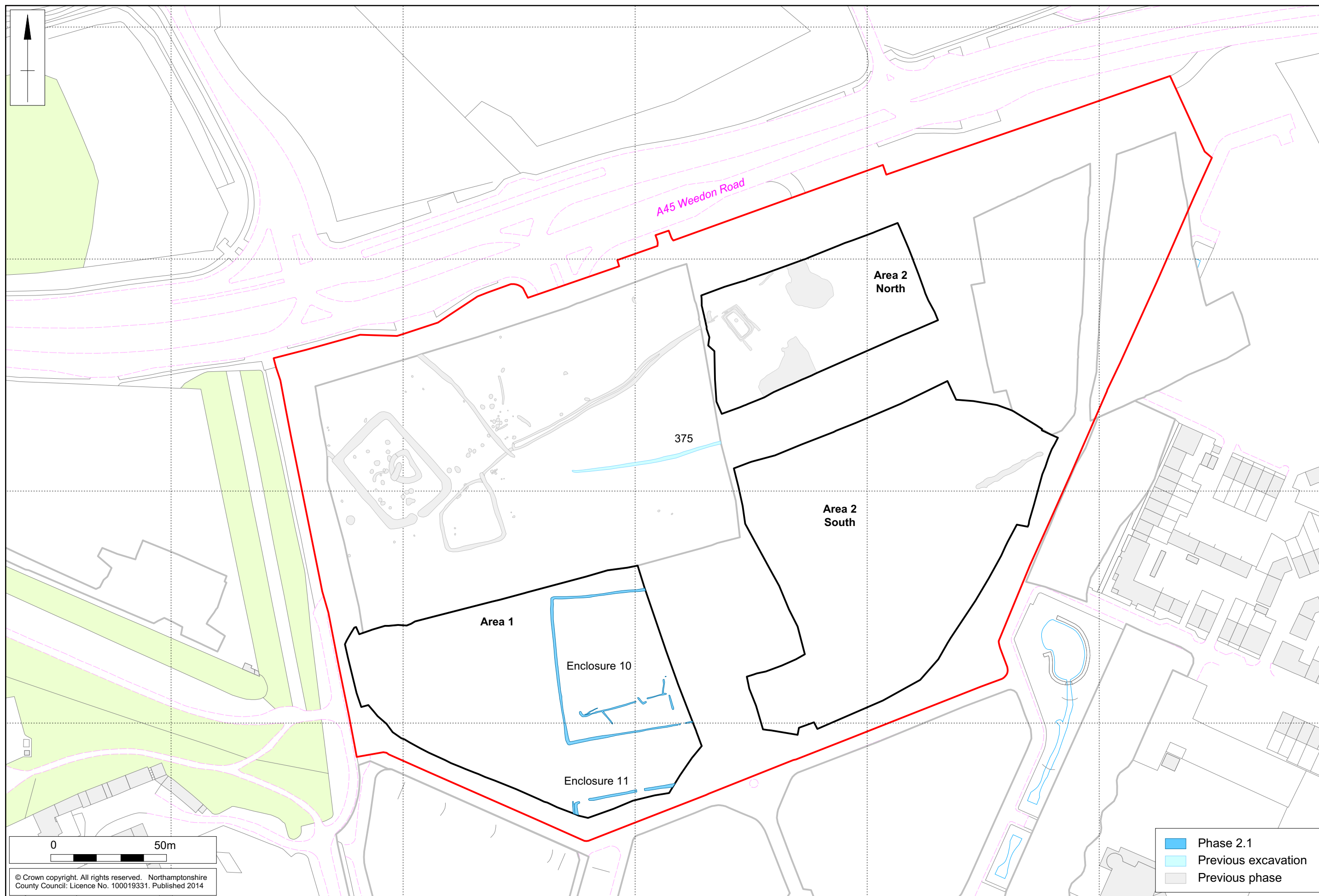
3.3 Period 2: Romano-British enclosures (1st to 3rd centuries AD)

The majority of the features recorded within the development area was dated to the Romano-British period; from the later part of the 1st century AD till the later 3rd century and perhaps into the early years of the 4th century AD. Latest Romano-British pottery types were not present in significant volumes and it is believed that use of the area contracted significantly at the end of the 3rd century AD. The Iron Age boundary at the northern end of the site was no longer maintained, but it seems likely that some form of boundary feature, possibly a hedge, was maintained here throughout the Romano-British period as its effect was still apparent at the end of the 3rd century in the layout of the later enclosures. The settlement associated with the boundary was abandoned and a new series of enclosures and trackways as well as features associated with non-specialised rural settlement were constructed. However, no structures were identified and it is possible that any buildings had minimal ground impact.

Phase 2.1: Early Romano-British enclosures (late 1st to early 2nd century AD)

This phase comprises the initial layout of a series of broadly rectilinear enclosures and boundaries (Fig 9) approximately 70m to the south of the late Iron Age boundary. Although physically unconnected the elements of the field system curve gently following the natural contours of the landscape on the south facing valley slope and seem to form a coherent pattern. These enclosures may have been associated with the construction of a narrow ditch (375), on a similar alignment, recorded in the earlier excavations 50m to the north of Enclosure 10. This feature was originally identified as a late Iron Age entity because it predated the earliest known (2nd to 3rd century AD) Romano-British features in that area, but it might have been later 1st century in date and is similarly aligned to the enclosures to the south. These enclosures represent a change in prevailing alignment from north-east to south-west to a more east to west trend and were laid out in an area previously devoid of archaeologically visible activity since the early Neolithic. It is likely that there was little temporal gap between the disuse of the latest Iron Age enclosures, in use in the middle of the 1st century AD, and the setting out of the new enclosures probably towards the end of that century or the early years of the 2nd century AD.

Enclosure 10 was located in Area 1 and measured 60m north to south and over 47m east to west, with an internal area in excess of 2820sq.m. The eastern side of the enclosure was beyond the limit of excavation and is likely to have been below the new road constructed for the housing estate. There was a possible narrow entranceway measuring approximately 3m wide on the southern side with a post, off centre, in the gap. Small amounts of pottery were recovered from five points around the southern and western enclosure arms dating from the late 1st century AD and the 2nd century AD. Subdivision ditches were constructed in the southern half of the enclosure probably for stock management. Pottery of 2nd century AD date was recovered from two elements of the narrow shallow ditches in association with an iron nail (SF1) and a flint artefact (SF2).



Enclosure 11 was located at the extreme southern end of Area 1, 25m south of Enclosure 10, and comprised a northern arm and part of the north-west corner incorporating a 4m wide entranceway. The majority of the enclosure would have lain beyond the development area to the south; the western arm had evidence for recutting and modification absent from the northern arm. Nine sherds of 2nd-century AD pottery were recovered from three points along the northern arm. Its alignment and position suggests it was broadly contemporary with Enclosure 10.

Phase 2.2: Expansion of the Romano-British settlement (2nd century AD)

This phase comprises an expansion of the settlement recorded in the eastern excavation area in 2000 into the present development area. A series of broadly rectilinear enclosures and boundaries on a north-east to south-west alignment were constructed that marked the disuse of both Enclosures 10 and 11 (Fig 10). The area now formed part of a planned, unified system of enclosures and boundaries on the middle terrace of the south facing slope

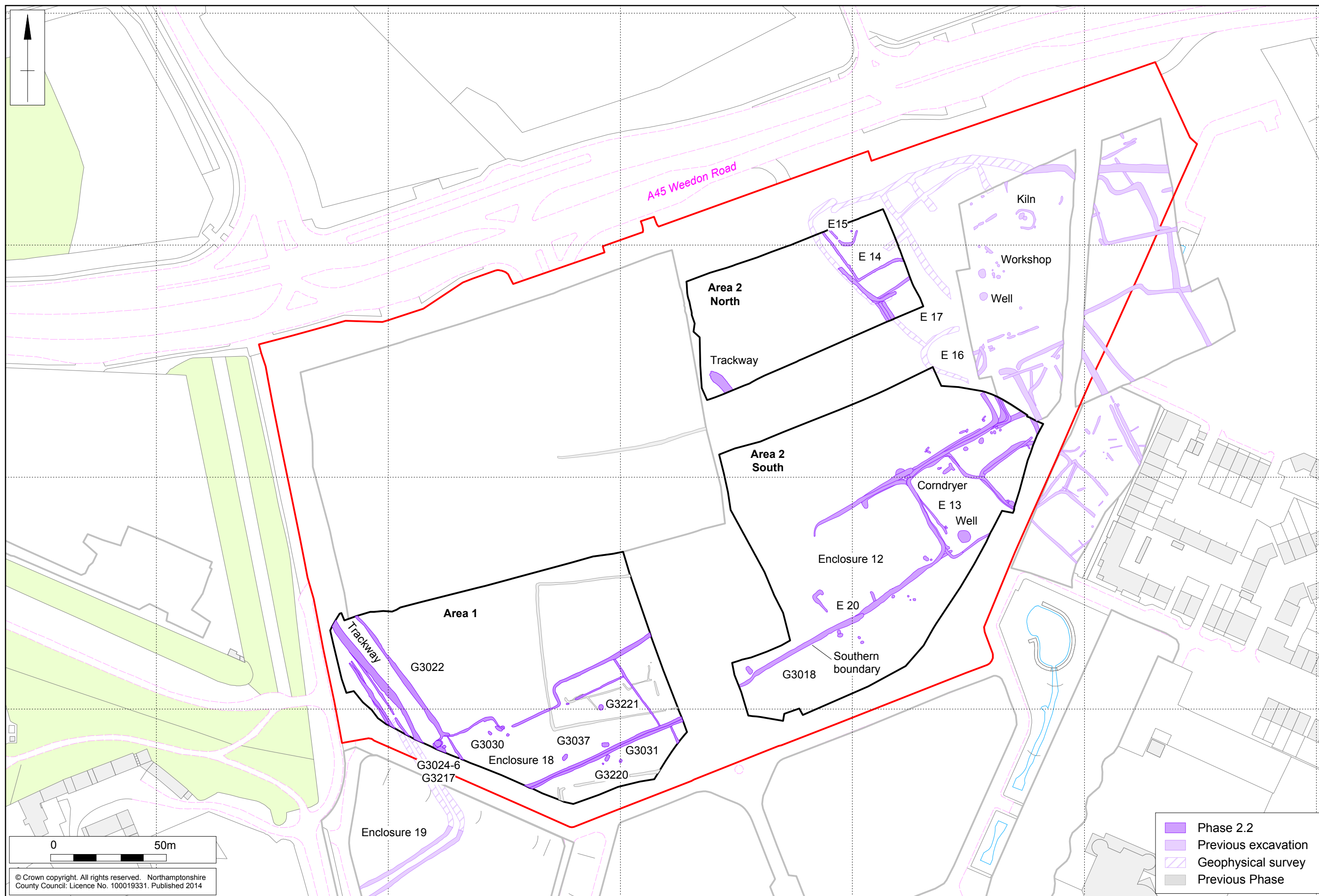
Fifty-seven percent of the contexts that contained pottery have been dated to the 2nd century AD, when the contexts dated more loosely to the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD are included this rises to 84%. This is in contrast to later centuries where 1% have been dated to the 3rd century AD; less than 1% to the 4th century AD and a total of 8% to the two centuries combined. This strongly suggests that this 2nd-century phase of expansion and redevelopment represents the main period of settlement use when activity was flourishing, even when the problem of 3rd-century pottery dating is considered, the relative absence of 4th-century wares would suggest declining use in this area.

Southern boundary

The unifying element in the landscape is a boundary aligned south-west to north-east (G3018). This feature is consistently dated to the 2nd century AD and in both Areas 1 and 2, and functions variously as a boundary and part of a series of rectilinear enclosures. The boundary was subsequently recut on the same lines, although in Area 2 it was partially segmented possibly to accommodate new access points in the enclosures. This later version of the boundary contained an assemblage of pottery dating from the 2nd to 3rd century AD with some less diagnostic later Romano-British material present. It included a deliberate dump of several vessels in its upper fill (Fig 11).

Area 1 enclosures, trackway and associated features

Enclosure 18 was constructed to the north of the boundary, replacing Enclosure 10. Pottery of 2nd century and 2nd to 3rd century AD date was recovered from the ditches. A pit cluster G3030, dating from the 2nd century AD, may have been associated with its initial use. A deliberate kink in the northern side of the enclosure by the 4m wide entranceway was presumably designed to avoid an obstruction, perhaps a structure that has left no archaeological trace.





Pottery dumped in boundary ditch G3031, looking south-west Fig 11

Three pits, either side of the southern boundary (pit cluster G3037), were all similar in form and all had a similarly dark humic fill (Fig 12). Sample 6 recovered from pit [1121] in this cluster contained a high volume of cereal processing waste as well as ferrous hammerscale and spherules suggesting smithing activity in the immediate vicinity.



Pit [1121] in cluster G3037, looking north-west

Fig 12

A deep circular pit (G3221), dated to the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD was sited within Enclosure 18 and has been interpreted as a possible waterhole (Fig 13). The samples recovered from the three fills contained little environmental evidence but one produced hammerscale and spherules indicating that it was contemporary with the cluster to the south. It seems likely that smithing was taking place very close to these pits, presumably within or close to Enclosure 18.



Pit G3221, possible water hole associated with metalworking, looking west Fig 13

A small pit (G3220, Fig 14) containing the fragmented remains of a possible cremated individual was located just outside Enclosure 18. It is included here because of its proximity to the pit cluster (G3037) and the coincidence of charcoal rich fills, however, it was undated and contained very little processing waste and as such may be unrelated to this phase of activity.



Pit G3220 containing cremated possible human remains, looking west Fig 14

Immediately to the west of Enclosure 18, a ditch (G3022) was constructed that extended over a distance of 65m. It turned slightly to the south-west at its southern end before terminating and apparently draining into a large shallow pit (G3024, Fig 15). Pottery of 2nd century AD date was recovered from two points along its course, with 2nd to 3rd-century pottery recovered from the upper fill. It was then replaced by a shorter, reversed version containing a very small amount of intrusive 4th-century AD

pottery. This change shifted the terminal away from the recut pit (G3026) and was probably associated with the initial use of Enclosure 18.

The large sub-circular pit (G3024) was shallow with slightly irregular sides indicative of trampling in wet ground. Its fill was very dark in hue, and its colour as well as the trampling suggests that it may have been associated with agricultural or industrial processing (Fig 10). An eroded hollow (G3217) immediately to the south of the pit was probably formed through trampling in this area during the use of the pit. Both the pit and the hollow contained 2nd-century AD pottery. The recut of the pit was also dated to the 2nd century AD and contained a corroded iron rod (SF32); as well as high densities of burnt cereal and chaff possibly derived from parching cereals to remove chaff before further processing. A small adjacent pit was similarly dated and perhaps associated with this activity.



Pit G3024, showing trampled edge and ditch G3022 to rear, looking north-east Fig 15

Enclosure 19 probably mirrored Enclosure 18, although most of it lay beyond the limit of excavation to the west. The enclosure ditch had evidence for recutting during this period.

A trackway was established between the two enclosures. It was, for the most part, an unmade surface and survived as a series of overlapping wheel ruts, although in places patches of gravel metalling had been deposited to consolidate deeply rutted areas (Fig 16).



Trackway G3041, looking down slope to the south-east

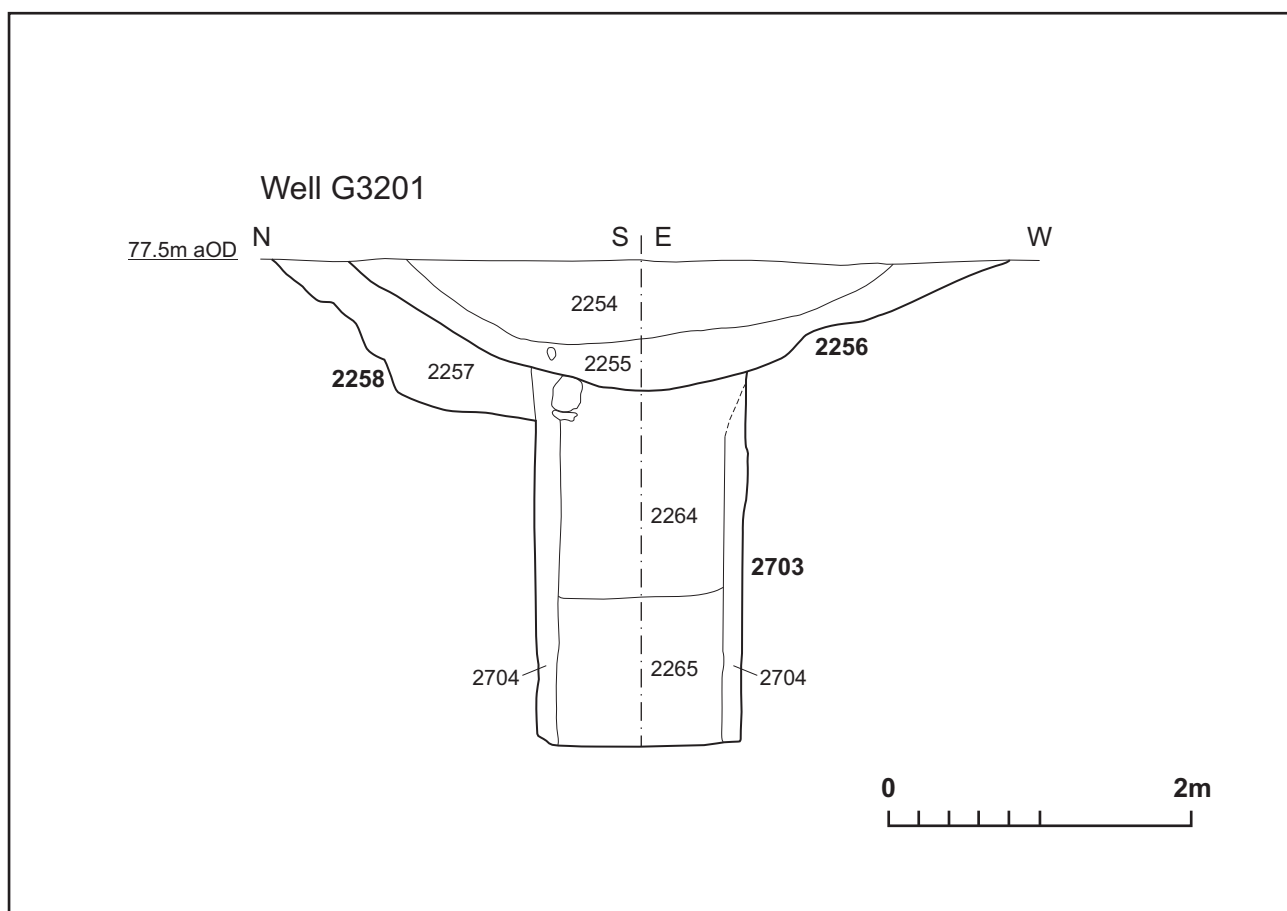
Fig 16

Area 2 enclosures, well and corndryer

In Area 2, Enclosures 12 and 13 were constructed to the north of boundary G3018 and formed a continuation of activity recorded in the earlier excavations to the east. Here 2nd-century AD activity comprised a number of ill defined sub-rectilinear enclosures associated with a kiln, a workshop and a stone-lined well (Walker and Maull 2010). As the enclosures developed there was some evidence for internal subdivision or funnelling from the enclosures to the east. A small number of pits were associated with the enclosures, although no structures were recorded. A stone and wood-lined well was constructed (G3201, Fig 17) in the south-west corner of Enclosure 13 that was initially kept very clean. The presence of this well and the pits suggests that despite the absence of evidence for structures and settlement this was not an exclusively pastoral landscape.

A T-shaped corndryer or malting oven was also constructed in Enclosure 13 (G3208, Fig 18). The oven was lined with limestone and ironstone blocks with water worn cobbles and clay packing used to backfill the construction trench and it had a sub-circular stokehole at the western end of the main channel, dropping steeply into a heavily blackened firepit. An environmental sample recovered from within the firepit produced only charcoal and fired clay suggesting that the oven was kept clean while in use.

The upper, stone-lined, superstructure of the well was deliberately removed and the upper part of the well allowed to fill in. This contained the best preserved, though still small, faunal assemblage recovered from the excavation; some pieces of preserved wooden stakes and 2nd-century AD pottery. The environmental sample recovered from this deposit indicates that at the end of its use the area around the well turned into rank grassland with stands of nettles but without the more substantial woody shrubs associated with abandonment.



Upper section of well G3201, looking east



Corndryer/malting oven G3208, looking north-east

Fig 18

No structural remains were identified within Enclosure 13, however, this area had been heavily disturbed during the construction of a compound associated with the housing development to the south and any shallow features that might have been present would have been removed during these works.

Enclosure 20, measuring 20m by 15m internally, was constructed within Enclosure 12 and again was offset from boundary G3018. Its boundaries are likely to have been fenced or hedged following its initial layout as the ditches would have been insufficient to demarcate its presence.

Three further enclosures were recorded in the area to the north of Enclosures 12 and 13, and represent the furthest westward expansion of the eastern settlement in the northern part of the site in the 2nd century AD. Enclosure 14 was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring in excess of 40m by 30m internally. Its northern limit was identified in the geophysical survey where it overlay the Iron Age boundary ditch sequence. Two sherds of later Romano-British pottery were recovered from this enclosure ditch but it is believed to be intrusive because of its stratigraphic position. The enclosure was recut twice, retracting slightly to the north-east.

Segmented, sub-circular, Enclosure 15 was sited in the north-west corner of Enclosure 14. As an undated feature its inclusion in this phase is tentative, but its west side mirrored the west side of the larger enclosure and they may have been contemporary. A single posthole was recorded in association with the discontinuous ditch, although no other structural elements were observed, its form and size suggests that it might have been associated with a structure.

Enclosure 16 was identified in the geophysical survey and in the earlier excavations; no elements were recovered in the latest excavations. Enclosure 17 was located in the gap between Enclosures 14 and 16. As with Enclosure 14 it had been recut twice.

A linear eroded hollow (G3122) was located at the western side of this area and may have been the remains of an unconsolidated trackway similar to the one observed in the western half of Area 1.

Phase 2.3 New enclosure layout (3rd century AD)

This phase comprises a significant change to the landscape in the 3rd century AD, with few of the enclosures or boundaries surviving in the same form. The changes were not long lived and use of the area probably stopped before the end of the century (Fig 19). Latest Romano-British wares were almost entirely absent, however, to the east there was evidence for continued use into the 4th century AD. This might represent a contraction back towards the north-east.

The major boundary, at the southern end of the excavation area, loses significance and is transgressed by elements of large rectilinear ditched fields or enclosures that extended beyond the excavation area. This was the first time that the former Iron Age ditched boundary, at the northern end of the excavated area, had been transgressed and it is possible that a new boundary had been constructed on a similar alignment and position to the early to mid Iron Age pit alignment. This alignment is retained today in the line of the A4500 Daventry to Northampton road.

In Area 1, Enclosures 18 and 19 fell out of use and were replaced by the much larger Enclosure 21. The full form of this enclosure is uncertain, but it might have been in excess of 175m north to south and 125m east to west. This change was associated with the widening or shifting of the trackway to its west. Metalled layers were deposited over the disused earlier ditches and pits to consolidate the area and wheel ruts were recorded over the earlier features. Enclosure 21 was then, seemingly, widened to the west beyond the limit of excavation. Internal subdivision ditches, containing only residual 2nd-century AD pottery, were constructed over the line of the trackway which, if retained, was presumably also moved to the west, perhaps to the line of the later, medieval road, Upton Lane. If the trackway did shift to this position it would have been parallel to the known eastern limit of the enclosure. The absence of 3rd-century AD pottery in these latest features suggests that there was little new deposition of artefacts in this area after the 2nd century and possibly reflects a contraction of domestic settlement.

In Area 2, two similar large rectilinear enclosures were constructed (Enclosures 22 and 23). These marked the disuse of the earlier boundary and enclosures. In both enclosures, short ditches were dug on the line of the earlier southern boundary. These features may have been associated with the continued use of Enclosures 13 and 20 in a reduced format. A watering hole was constructed close to the northern edge of Enclosure 20 and two large shallow pits were located just to its south, indicating that it was still in use. Both shallow pits contained substantial amounts of 2nd to 3rd-century AD and 3rd to 4th-century AD pottery as well as animal bone in a charcoal rich, humic deposit and are likely to be domestic refuse pits probably associated with a non-surviving structure perhaps located within Enclosure 20 (Fig 20). Sample 17 recovered from one of the pits contained grain parching waste.

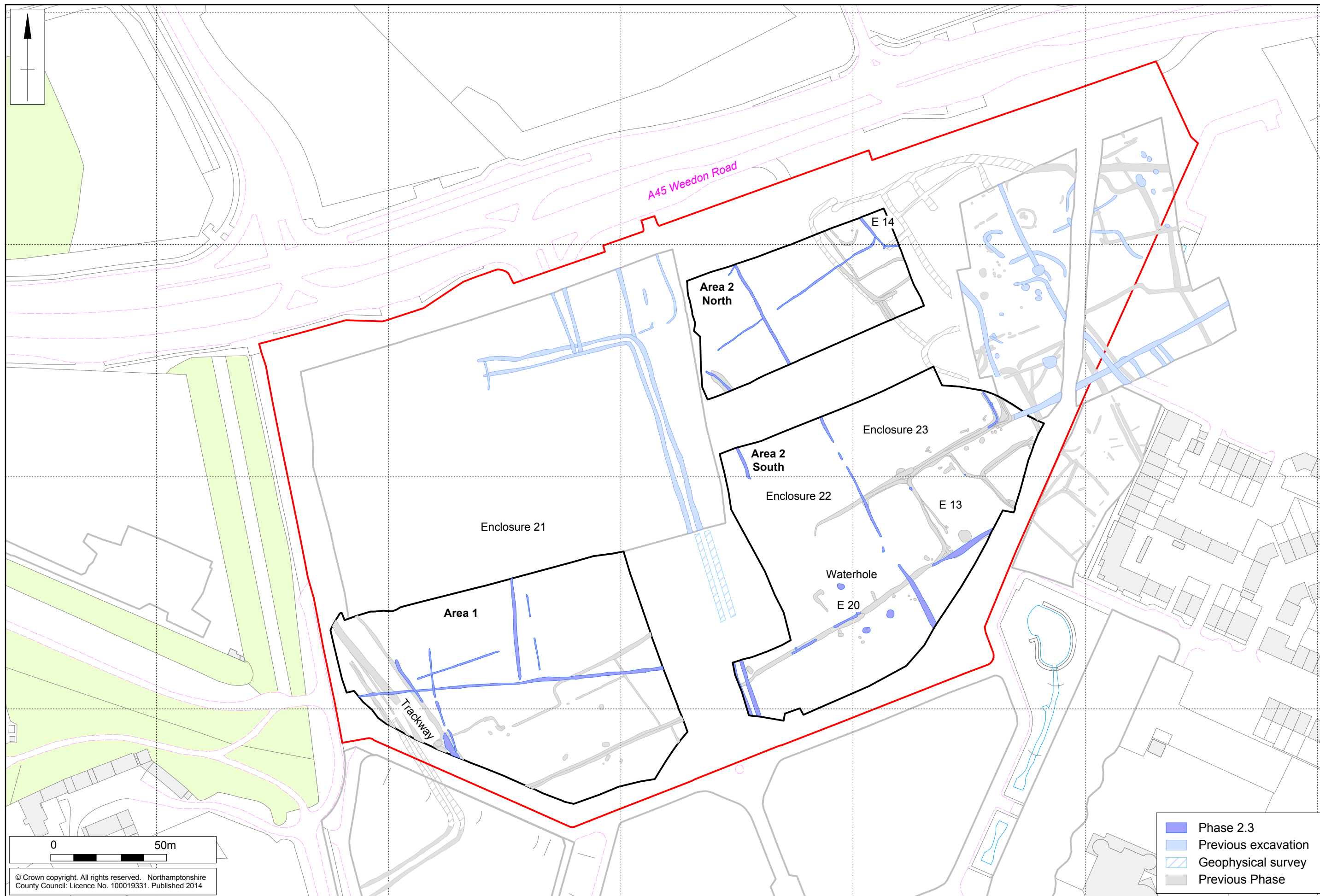


Pit associated with Enclosure 20, looking north

Fig 20

The use of these large rectilinear enclosures was short lived, as scrappy short ditches were then constructed across their line. These were similar to the latest features recorded in the excavations to the east, none form coherent enclosure or boundary ditches. A small number of pits were recorded cutting into later elements of the disused enclosures and boundaries (G3170, G3193, G3198 and G3205). Pits of this date were generally absent elsewhere and it seems their positions, targeting the earlier features, were deliberate.

In the north-eastern part of Area 2, Enclosure 14 continued its retreat to the north-east before declining in use.



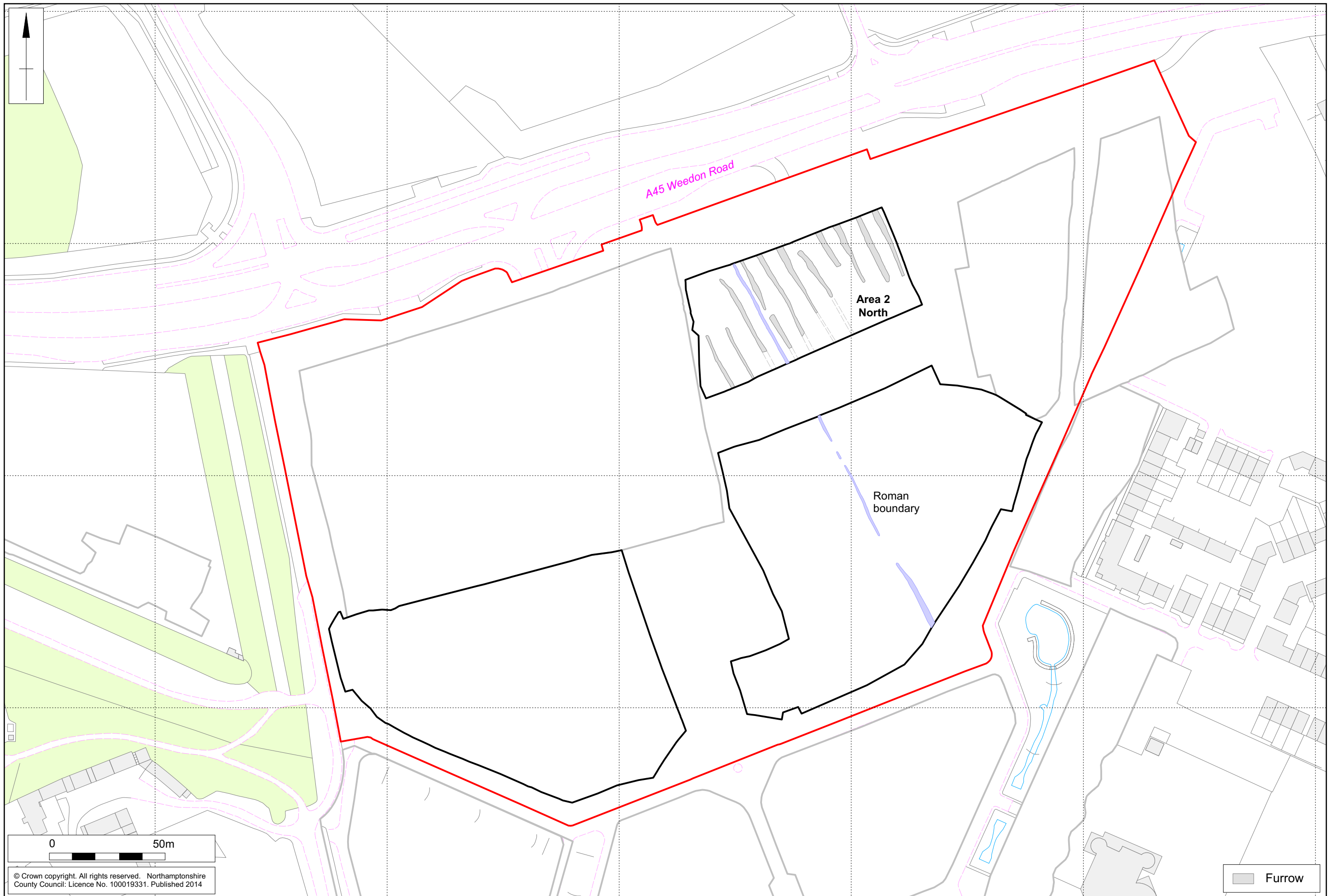
3.4 Period 3: Medieval to post-medieval agriculture (14th to 19th centuries AD)

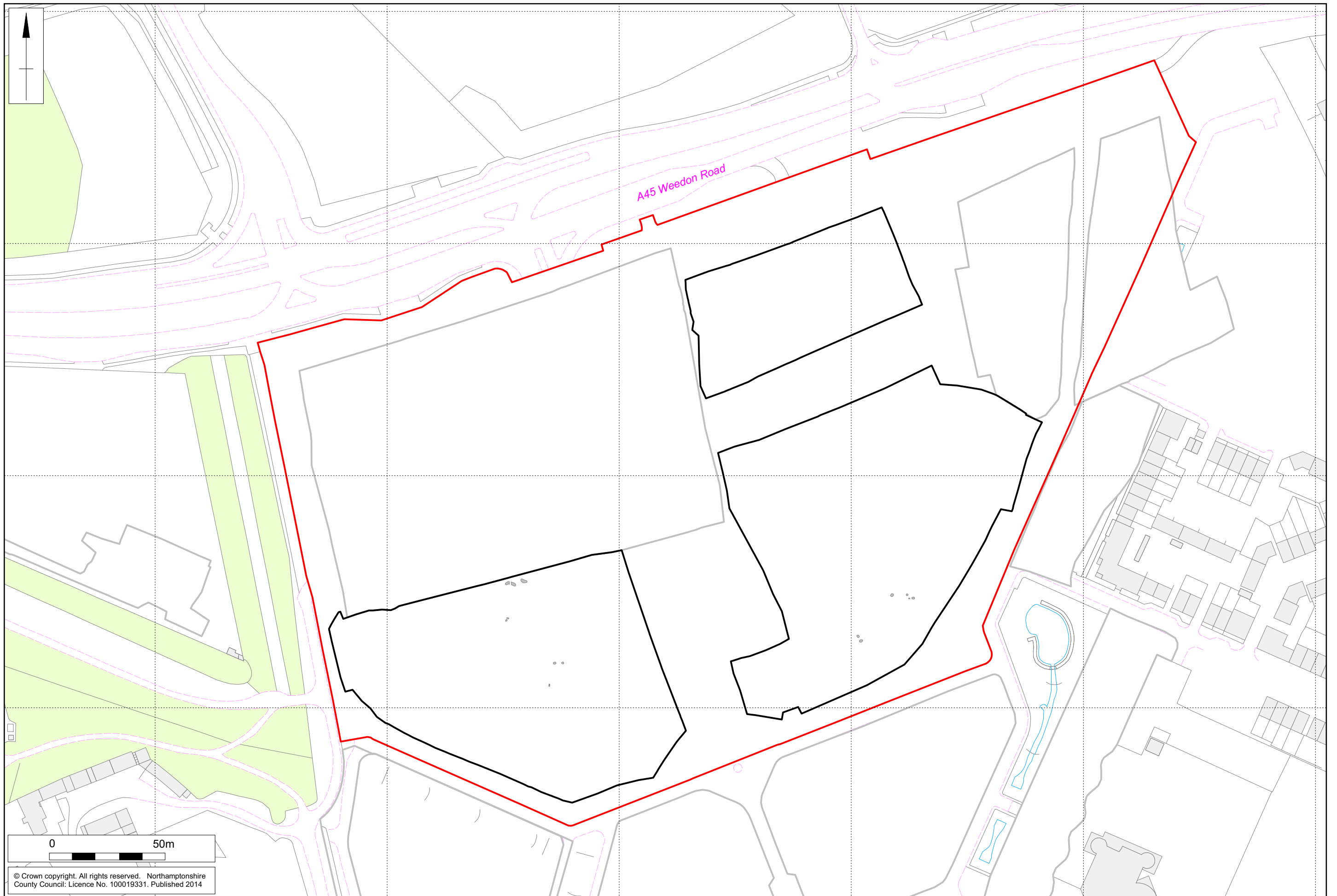
A series of regularly-spaced linear features, aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, were visible on the geophysical survey and were recorded across the northern part of Area 2 during the excavation (Fig 21). They are the truncated remains of furrows of a former medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow field system. The furrows were not recorded further to the south where there was a greater depth of subsoil accumulation over the underlying archaeology. The furrows were on the same alignment as the 3rd-century AD ditch forming the division between Enclosures 22 and 23, possibly suggesting that it survived as a landscape feature. Evidence for the similar reuse of extant Romano-British boundaries forming headlands/field boundaries in the medieval period was also recovered at Yaxley in Cambridgeshire (Brown 2008).

The development area would have been part of the common fields of Upton village but the date of the enclosure of the land is uncertain. It might have been partially enclosed in the early 15th century when the land changed hands and there is reference to further enclosure in the early 18th century (Walker and Maull 2010).

3.5 Unphased features

A small number of discrete features were undated and have not been assigned to a phase (Fig 22).





Scale 1:1500 (A3)

4 THE FINDS

4.1 Flint by Andy Chapman

A total of 29 pieces of worked flint was recovered. These are all single items residual within later contexts with the exception of the fill (1228) in pit G3224, which produced a small group of eight flints, as discussed below.

Table 2: Quantification of worked flint

Type	All contexts	Fill (1228)/ Pit G3224	Total
Flake	16 (9 cortical)	7 (2 cortical)	23 (11 cortical)
Blade	3 (1 cortical)	1 (stone axe)	4
Core	1	0	1
Misc. retouch	1	0	1
Totals	21	8	29

The raw material comprises grey-black to brown vitreous flint with white to light brown cortex. The assemblage is dominated by small flakes typically 15-30mm long, and often with some cortex surviving, indicating that they had been struck from small pebble cores, typical of local assemblages produced from the small flint nodules available in the local gravels. A squat, blade-like cortical flake has been retouched at the distal end, creating a thin, square scraper-like end. There are five larger, irregular flakes, 40-60mm long, but all of these could be accidental removals of flakes from flint nodules.

A proportion of the flakes are blade-like or have been struck from small cores with previous narrow blade removals. The single core fragment comprises a burnt core rejuvenation flake struck from a small prismatic core, 41mm long, from which narrow blades have been removed. The small group of blades includes an exceptionally narrow blade, 42mm long and 5-6mm wide.

The small group from fill (1228) comprises small irregular flakes, probably all struck from the same nodule. In addition, there is a long narrow flake, 34mm long by 5-6mm wide, which appears to be struck from a stone axe, most probably of Group VI from Langdale, Cumbria (Fig 23).



Blade struck from a Langdale stone axe (Scale 10mm) Fig 23

The presence of a blade core, some blades and blade-like flakes and, in particular, the blade struck from a Langdale stone axe suggests that much of the group is likely to date to the early Neolithic. The flint is broadly similar in character and date to the assemblage of 75 worked flint from the excavation of the northern part of the site in 2000 (Wolfram-Murray 2010).

4.2 Iron Age pottery by Andy Chapman

A total of 157 sherds and crumbs of pottery, weighing 905g, was recovered from a range of features (Table 3). There is an average sherd weight of only 5.8g, but this is not unusual for a Northamptonshire assemblage where the shell inclusions have been leached, leaving the sherds soft and friable. The material is all in poor condition, with the sherds often small, soft and abraded. In the contexts that contain sandy fabrics in addition to shelly fabrics, the material is in slightly better condition, although still poor, as the sandy fabrics are less liable to leaching.

Of the 12 context groups, only two exceed 60g, and these are both groups of multiple sherds from single vessels.

Table 3: Quantification of Iron Age pottery

Period/ Phase	Fill/Cut Group	Feature	Fabrics			Sherds	Weight (g)	Date
			1	2	3			
1.4	2437/2438 G3084	Encl 8	0	50	0	50	340	Late Iron Age
1.4	2482/2483 G3086	Encl 9	10	0	0	10	60	Late Iron Age?
1.4	2367/2368 G3088	Encl 9	3	0	0	3	15	Iron Age
1.4	2545/2700 G3088	Encl 9	1	0	1	2	15	Iron Age
1.4	2431/2434 G3092	Pit in Encl 9	0	9	0	9	20	Late Iron Age?
1.4	2432/2434 G3092	Pit in Encl 9	0	13	0	13	60	Late Iron Age?
1.4	2581/2582 G3095	Extraction pit	0	0	6	6	10	Iron Age
1.4	2641/2643 G3095	Extraction pit	30	0	0	30	295	Late Iron Age
1.4	2642/2643 G3095	Extraction pit	7	0	7	0	20	Iron Age
2.2	2506/2511 G3210	Corndryer	0	0	(8)	8	35	Iron Age (& RB)
2.3	2634/2635 G3118	Encl 22/23	0	0	(5)	5	15	Iron Age (& RB)
2.3	2020/2019 G3187	Boundary ditch	7	0	0	7	20	Iron Age (& RB)
Totals			58	72	27	157	905	
Percentage by sherd no.			37%	46%	17%			

Fabrics

As is typical of Northamptonshire, a majority of the sherds, 83%, had contained crushed shell, with the remainder in a sandy fabric.

Fabric 1: Shelly; containing voids and pitted surfaces indicating the former presence of crushed shell. 58 sherds (37%)

Fabric 2: Shell and grog; containing voids and pitted surfaces indicating the former presence of crushed shell, and also small irregular pellets, 2-4mm across, of pale off white grog. 72 sherds (46%)

Fabric 3: Sandy (with ironstone); containing sand, giving a harsh surface texture, and in two contexts also containing irregular lumps of ironstone, 3-6mm across. 27 sherds (17%)

The pottery and its chronology

The sherds from the fills (2641) and (2642) of extraction pit G3095, were heavily ironstained, due to the waterlogged condition of the deposits towards the base of the deep pit. From fill (2641) there is a collection of sherds from a single vessel, a hand-built bowl with a flat base, a rounded body and an everted, rounded rim. The fabric may have contained sparse finely crushed shell but, if so, this had been lost to leaching. The vessel is well made, with smoothed surfaces, and is likely to date to the late Iron Age, the 1st century BC. The other Iron Age groups contain few diagnostic features, but a similar late Iron Age date may be suggested.

The fill (2437) of Enclosure 8 ditch G3084 produced 340g of soft and eroded sherds and crumbs from a single vessel. The fabric is very soft, and contains voids from leached shell inclusions as well as small pellets of light coloured grog. It has a brown core giving way to an orange, oxidised, interior and a grey exterior. Much of the rim survives and this is a deep thickened rim with a pronounced groove along the top. The rim form indicates that the vessel falls into the channel-rim jar category of the early to mid 1st century AD (late pre-Roman Iron Age), despite the 'primitive' appearance of the vessel given by the soft, leached, pitted and eroded fabric (Fig 24).



The rim sherds from fill (2437) showing the channel rim (Scale 20mm) Fig 24

The small groups from pit G3092 are in the same fabric and condition as the channel rim jar, and therefore probably also date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age (early to mid-1st century AD).

4.3 Romano-British pottery by Rob Perrin

A Romano-British pottery assemblage comprising 1765 sherds, weighing a little under 35kg, was recovered from 164 contexts (Table 4). One context in each of the two excavated areas contains a significant proportion of the pottery from each of those areas - over half the pottery by count and weight came from fill 1153 in Phase 2.2 boundary G3031; and over a third by count and almost a half by weight from fill 2190 in pit [2191], part of Phase 2.3 pit group G3195. Only eight other contexts (four from each area) have assemblages weighing over 500g and only one of these (from Area 2) has more than a kilogram. The pottery is mostly 2nd to 4th century in date.

Methodology

The pottery was recorded using simple fabric classifications, based on principal inclusion or firing technique, together with known regional or imported wares. A basic quantification was carried out comprising numbers of sherds and weight by fabric group. Vessel forms were recorded per fabric using simple form letter codes and this also provided an extra quantification measure of an approximate number of vessels.

Table 4: Romano-British pottery quantification by area

	Sherds	%	Weight (g)	%	ASW (g)	No. of Contexts
Area 1	734	41.59	13319	38.84	18	65
Area 2	1031	58.41	20969	61.56	20	99
Total	1765		34288		19.5	164

Fabrics

Table 5 shows the pottery assemblage by fabric type. The main fabrics are various grog-tempered, reduced and oxidised wares and Central Gaulish samian ware (CGS). Where possible, the fabrics are related to those noted in the report on the pottery from the 2000 excavations (Timby 2010a, 25-7 and 2010b, 38 and table 4 in Walker and Maull 2010) and the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998; eg DOR BB1).

The grog-tempered pottery varies in colour with buffs, browns, reddish browns, dark browns and grey all occurring (Timby 2010a fabric A2; 2010b, table 5). Between a half and two-thirds of the grog-tempered pottery is more pink in colour, often with a grey core, and this fabric appears to conform more to that commonly known as 'pink grog-tempered' ware (Booth and Green 1989; Marney 1989; Taylor 2004; Tomber and Dore 1998, 210 [PNK GT] - Timby *ibid.* fabric A2; table 5). The reduced and oxidised wares comprise a range of quartz-gritted fabrics with varying colours, surface treatment and texture (Timby *ibid.* fabrics B1 and B3; Table 4). The colours in which the reduced wares occur are various shades of grey, dark grey and grey-brown and some have different coloured cores. The oxidised fabrics are buff, pink or reddish-yellow in colour, some with darker coloured cores. Some reddish-yellow and grey sherds have a noticeably micaceous fabric (Timby *ibid.* fabric B3; table 5).

The assemblage includes products from regional production sites in the Lower Nene Valley (LNVCC - Timby *ibid.* fabric B2), South Dorset (BB1 – DOR BB1), Mancetter-Hartshill (MAH PA, MAH WH) and near Oxford (OXF – OXF PA, OXF WH, OXR RS), together with imported continental pottery comprising Central Gaulish samian ware (CGS), Central Gaulish colour-coated ware (CNG BS) and south Spanish amphorae (BAT AM).

One fabric which appears to be absent is shell-gritted ware, but it is thought that the ware termed 'vesicular' is actually shell-gritted ware where the shell has leached out due to soil conditions (Timby *ibid.* fabric(s) C; Table 5). A lot of the pottery was very abraded with, for example, many sherds of CGS occurring without any slip surviving. Consequently, some sherds might be in fabrics other than those assigned.

Table 5: Romano-British pottery assemblage by fabric type

Fabric	Sherds	Weight		
		%	(g)	%
Grey	784	44.42	13644	39.79
Grog	332	18.81	9567	27.90
Vesicular?	83	4.70	1148	3.35
Bufs	108	6.12	1390	4.05
Cream	39	2.21	1428	4.16
Reddish yellow	153	8.67	1719	5.013
CGCC	2	0.11	3	0.01
CGS	124	7.03	1756	5.12
LVNCC	40	2.27	338	0.99
Mancetter	10	0.57	736	2.15
OXF	24	1.36	542	1.58
BB1	58	3.29	1441	4.20
Amph	8	0.45	576	1.68
Total	1765		34288	

Forms

The recording of vessel forms, based on rims or other sherds where form identification was certain, identified some 281 different vessels. Table 6 gives the vessel type per fabric.

Table 6: Quantification of vessel type by fabric

Fabric	Form	J	B	D	B/D	BKR	C	F	M	Misc	Total	%
Grey		75	6	14	23	1	-	-	-	J/BKR(4), J/F	124	44
Grog		33	2		-	-	-	-	-		35	12.5
Vesicular?		5	-		-	-	-	-	-		5	1.75
Bufs		6	-		-	-	-	4	1	J/BKR, J/F	13	4.5
Cream		4	-		-	-	-	3	1		8	<3
Reddish yellow		7	2	1	-	2	-	2		J/BKR(2)	16	5.5
CGCC		-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-		2	
CGS		-	6	13	2		9		1		31	11
LVNCC		-	1	2	-	3	-	1	-	BOX, JUG, J/B	10	3.5
Mancetter		-			-	-	-		9		9	>3
OXF		-	7	1	-	-	-	1	6		15	5>
BB1		5	2	5	-	-	-			BKR/J	13	4.5
Total		135	26	36	25	8	9	11	18	13	281	
%		48	9>	13	9	<3	3	4	6.5	4.5		

J=jar; B=bowl; D=dish; BKR=beaker; C= cup; F=flagon; M=mortaria

Jars and probable jars account for nearly half the total and occur in all the main fabrics, in a range of sizes and with a variety of rim types. Large storage vessels occur in grey, grog-tempered and the vesicular ware, and the jars in BB1 all have curved, cavetto, rims. Bowls and dishes comprise almost another third of the total, but mainly occur in grey ware and various regional and imported wares. The grey ware dishes and bowls have a variety of rim forms, including flanged and plain-rimmed, and the latter rim types account for all bar one of the BB1 bowls and dishes; a number of these have external burnished intersecting arc decoration. The bowls and dishes in Oxford colour-coated ware (OXF RS) include imitations of samian ware forms 36 and 38, while those in LVNCC include a flanged bowl, a plain-rimmed dish and a wide, shallow dish. The CGS bowls and dishes are from forms 18/31, 18/31 or 31, 31, 31R, 36, 37 38 and Curle 11, with cup forms 33 and 46 also occurring. The

beakers include cornice and curved rim types and some sherds are from indented vessels. The flagon rims present are both from very narrow-necked types. The mortaria include a CGS form 45 and bead and flanged, flanged, hammer-head and wall-sided types.

Sources

The sources of the regionally-traded and imported wares are known and it is likely that most of the reduced and oxidised vessels were produced locally, for numerous kilns have been found in the vicinity (Swan 1984, Map 14), and one was found on the previously-excavated nearby site (Walker and Maull 2010a, 13-14; 2010b, 32, 34-6; Timby 2010a, 27; 2010b, 38). The source of the 'pink grog-tempered' ware is not known, but a study of its distribution suggests that Upton and Duston lies inside its 'heartland' zone and possibly on the edge of the core zone (Taylor 2004, fig. 3). It is possible that some of the oxidised ware is from the kilns at Verulamium, though a similar gritty ware was produced in the Upper Nene area (UNV WH).

The site is close to the larger and more significant settlement of Roman Duston which was served by a number of Roman roads and would have been a focus for traded goods. It is possible, therefore, that the inhabitants of the Upton site would have had access to pottery from various sources which travelled along the roads and was available in shops or at markets in Roman Duston.

Dating

There seems to be little if any pottery which can be definitely dated to the 1st century AD, such as shell-gritted ware and South Gaulish samian ware, but it is possible that some of the grog-tempered ware is of 1st century date; much is likely to be of 2nd century date. Pink grogged ware appears to have had a long duration in its core usage area (Booth and Green 1989, 82; Taylor 2004, 60) but it achieved its maximum distribution in the later 3rd to 4th centuries; the 4th century storage jar type occurs in the assemblage. The CGS mainly dates from the Hadrianic period to the early 3rd century and the CGCC will have been produced in the Hadrianic-Antonine period. The regionally-traded wares from Oxfordshire, the Lower Nene Valley, Mancetter-Hartshill and South Dorset include definite 3rd and 4th century types. The dates of the various grey and oxidised ware forms range from the 2nd to 4th centuries.

Assemblage characteristics

Table 4 includes area data on average sherd weights (ASW). The totals are high in both areas, which may suggest that a number of the contexts may have been relatively undisturbed and contain material relating to specific episodes of deposition. This is certainly possible for the assemblages from boundary G3031 and pit [291] in group G3195, which contain a number of near complete vessels and sizeable fragments of others; this is also true of some other contexts.

While jars predominate, the number of bowls, dishes, cups, beakers and flagons is quite high, as is the overall percentage of CGS and the regionally-traded wares. Moreover, the percentage of CGS is even higher than that for the previously-excavated adjacent sites which, in itself, was thought to be unusually high (Timby *ibid* 29). The number of flagons and mortaria also seems higher. Timby noted (*ibid* 29) that the assemblage from the previous excavations could be considered to be fairly typical for a rural settlement site but with some aspects possibly outside of the norm. The assemblage from the 2012 excavations is similar overall, but the unusual aspects appear more pronounced.

4.4 Ceramic building materials by Pat Chapman

Roman tile

This small assemblage of 26 small tile sherds from 15 contexts, weighs 2224g (Table 7). There are six identifiable roof tile sherds, three *tegulae* and two *tegulae* flange fragments and one *imbrex*. The thickness of the *imbrex* sherd, 21mm, suggests that it could be from a ridge tile. The remaining 20 bodysherds have no diagnostic features, but probably come from roof tiles as they are typically 18-25mm thick, but one small sherd could be from a floor tile as it is 32mm thick.

The main fabric is fine silty orange clay, with some fine and coarse sandy orange to orange-brown clay fabrics. There is one fine silty pink clay sherd and two have been overfired.

Table 7: Quantification of Roman ceramic tile

Phase	Fill/cut Group	Feature	Sherds	Weight (g)	Comment
2.1	1175 /1176 G3000	Enclosure 10	1	22	-
2.2	1130 /1131 G3012	Enclosure 18	3	192	Tegula + flange
2.2	1155 /1156 G3018	Boundary	3	77	-
2.2	1255 /1265 G3024	Pit	1	221	-
2.2	1399 /1401 G3026	Pit	1	321	Tegula
2.2	1321 /1323 G3028	Enclosure 18	1	49	-
2.2	1068 /1069 G3031	Boundary	1	139	Tegula
2.2	2666 /2667 G3110	Enclosure 17	2	18	-
2.2	2304 /2305 G3136	Enclosure 13	2	97	-
2.2	2320 /2321 G3145	Enclosure 13	2	107	Tegula flange
2.2	2291 /2292 G3156	Enclosure 13	1	28	-
2.2	2198 /2199 G3175	Ditch segment	1	128	Imbrex/ ridge
2.2	1268 /1269 G3219	Pit	1	53	Floor tile
2.3	2037 /2039 G3195	Pit group	2	406	-
2.3	2190 /2191 G3195	Pit group	4	366	-
Totals			26	2224	

These sherds are very similar to the tile assemblage from the adjacent Upton site excavated in 2000, which comprised 34 sherds, weighing 4180g, including nine *tegulae* and one *imbrex* (Chapman 2010). There were sherds in the same fine silty orange clay and the fine and coarse sandy orange clay, however, that main fabric was shellyware, which is absent from the present assemblage.

This small scatter of roof tile sherds indicates that their associated buildings were not in the immediate vicinity.

Fired clay

There are 74 fragments of fired clay, weighing 5124g (Table 8). They vary in size from small fragments, scattered in a few contexts, to large lumps concentrated in the corndryer G3208. Most of these fragments appear to be from kiln furniture or lining.

One large fragment, from context (1130) ditch [1131] in Phase 2.2 enclosure ditch G3012, is part of a smooth flat kiln shelf, 20mm thick, with a very broad curve, very similar to one from the adjacent Upton excavation (Chapman 2010, 44, fig 30). Another fragment, from quarry pit fill (2581, G3095) could be part of an oven plate or a roughly-made kiln bar. It is 45mm thick with a rolled edge to uneven surfaces, with a fragment of an opposing edge. One small fragment is flat, 12mm thick, with grass stem impressions.

The 38 pieces from contexts (2506) (2507) and (2508) within corndryer G3208, together weighing 4345g, are the remnants of the corndryer superstructure. The largest piece, 130x130x100mm and weighing 1kg, is typical, being somewhat irregularly-shaped and made from a hard sandy orange-brown clay with a few cream streaks and a dark grey-black cindery area. Part of other pieces in the group have become grey and vesicular. This is all due to exposure to very high temperatures. Several of these pieces have structural elements among the irregularities: flat surfaces, sharply-angled corners and broad curves, but with no obvious diagnostic elements. One large fragment, bent at right angles and with a broad curve, exhibits an abrupt change from orange to grey vesicular clay indicating differential exposure (Fig 25).



Fired clay lining, (2508), from corndryer G3208 (Scale 50mm) Fig 25

Table 8: Quantification of fired clay

Phase	Fill/cut Group	Feature	No	Weight (g)	Comment
1.4	2552/[2553] G3085	Encl 8	8	100	-
1.4	2581/[2582] G3095	Quarry pit	1	116	Possible kiln plate or bar, 45mm thick
2.2	2101/[2103] G3143	Encl 13	1	22	Flat, 12mm thick, stem impressions
2.2	1130/[1131] G3031	Boundary ditch	1	300	Kiln shelf 20mm thick
2.2	1122/[1125] G3037	Pit	3	32	-
2.2	2506/[2511] G3209	Corndryer	31	2944	Large irregular pieces, kiln lining
2.2	2507/[3210] G3209	Corndryer	3	743	Large irregular pieces, kiln lining
2.2	2508/[2511] G3210	Corndryer	4	658	Large irregular pieces, kiln lining
2.3	2028/[2026] G3187	Boundary ditch	1	12	-
2.3	2025/[2024] G3193	Pit	1	6	-
2.3	2190/[2191] G3195	Pit group	17	112	-
2.3	2295/[2296] G3205	Pit	3	79	-
Totals			74	5124	

The remaining small to medium fragments of fired clay are possibly from the same activity. Tiny fragments of hard grey overfired clay, weighing 350g, come from soil samples 11 from fill (1182) of an undated pit [1183] and sample 15 from the Neolithic pit [1230] (Phase 1.1, G3224). This might indicate that Neolithic activity was more widespread in this part of the site than could be proven by other means.

This assemblage of fired clay is largely kiln furniture or more likely kiln lining given the irregular shapes and lack of obvious functional detail. It differs from the kiln material of the previous Upton excavation, which comprised thin flat grass-impressed sheets of clay, part of a pedestal and one sherd from a kiln shelf. However, this does suggest that local pottery making was carried on in the area.

4.5 Metalworking debris by Andy Chapman

From the fill (1028) of Enclosure 18 ditch G3019 there are four pieces, weighing 65g, of undiagnostic ferrous slag, which may be derived from some small scale iron smithing. Even smaller quantities of ferrous slag were obtained from the fill (2190) of pit [2191], forming part of pit group G3195; one piece weighing 1g, and from the fill (2642) of quarry pit [2643], two pieces weighing 10g.

Samples 4 and 6 taken from pit G3220 and one of the pits in the adjacent cluster G3037 produced both ferrous hammer scale and spherules. These pits are associated with the use of Enclosure 18 and support the possibility of small scale iron working in the vicinity.

4.6 Other finds by Tora Hylton

A small group of finds were recovered from the fills of ditches, pits and a well. There are 18 individual and group recorded items, with a total of 25 objects. The largest concentration of finds was recovered from pit [2191] in the Phase 2.3 pit cluster G3195; this contained 12 objects. The assemblage comprises items manufactured from iron (21), lead (1) and glass (3). The range of finds is small, but includes structural fittings and items for domestic use. The categories of finds are discussed below and a full catalogue is included in Appendix 2.

Iron

Twenty-one individual iron objects were recorded. Over half (15) comprises nails; eight 'structural' nails for use with wood and seven hobnails for use on the soles of leather shoes. The remaining six objects appear to be fittings, but the presence of corrosion products makes identification difficult.

Lead

The only item manufactured from lead is a large repair patch, presumably used to mend a ceramic vessel or similar object. The patch is sub-oval in shape with a curved profile, this possibly reflecting the curvature of the vessel it was fixed to. It measures 92 x 55mm and weighs 104gm.

Glass

Three sherds of glass were recovered; two sherds of blue/green glass were retrieved from the domestic refuse pit [2191] described above, one has a flat underside and measures c 3-2mm thick, it represents a base fragment and the other is an undiagnostic bodysherd. A rim sherd from a small beaker in pale green glass was recovered from the well G3201. The sherds are small and the lack of diagnostic features means that they are difficult to date with any certainty.

5 CREMATED HUMAN REMAINS by Sarah Inskip

Two small bags of cremated bone were recovered from two fills of a pit.

5.1 Methodology

The skeletal material was examined following the Institute for Archaeologists *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Brickley and McKinley 2004) and English Heritage's *Human Bones from Archaeological sites: A Guideline for Producing Assessment Documents and Reports* (Mays, Brickley and Dodwell 2002). The material was received washed and dried. Large fragments of extraneous material were removed. Bone was weighed to the nearest 1g using a digital scale.

5.2 Results

Fill 1103 from pit G3220, contained 56g of cremated bone, while lower pit fill 1104 contained less than 1g of bone. 98% of the material was 5mm or smaller. Full details are contained in Appendix 3. On a brief examination there were no fragments that were diagnostic of any specific human skeletal element, and while the texture of the bone was indicative of human bone, it was not conclusive.

Fill 1103 contains fragments of irregular bones, skull, ribs and long bones. Fill 1104 contained a piece of long bone and some unidentified fragments. The small amount of bone suggests, if it is human, we are dealing with a very small amount of an individual or possible debris from multiple individuals. The remains may represent a token burial or pyre debris rather than a proper burial. This is not uncommon for the Romano-British period.

The colour of cremated bone is indicative of pyre conditions with white bone produced by temperatures in excess of 650°C (Mays 2010) with ample oxygen. Temperatures below this create varying shades of grey, blue and brown fragments. Black bone is produced by poor oxygen levels and temperatures around or below 350 °C (Mays 2010). Most of the fragments (60%) are either white or grey, fewer than 5% of the fragments are black. This suggests that the pyre temperature was, at the minimum 350°C and above.

6 THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Faunal remains by Philip Armitage

Introduction

A small assemblage of hand-collected and sieved animal bone was submitted for assessment. Identification of the material was carried out using the author's modern comparative osteological collection. However, owing to the high incidence of fragmentation, only a few specimens were identified to species and anatomy (see summary – Table 9, below). The full catalogue is included as Appendix 4.

Table 9: Summary counts of the numbers of identified animal bone specimens (NISP) by species.

Species	NISP
Horse <i>Equus caballus</i> (domestic)	1
Cattle <i>Bos</i> (domestic)	11
Sheep/goat <i>Ovis/capra</i> (domestic)	2

Preservation

With certain exceptions (e.g. bones from fill 2264 in well G3201), the preservation of the animal bone was assessed as extremely poor, with the specimens exhibiting the effects of leaching and susceptibility to fragmentation owing to their brittle condition. In general, conditions in the deposits seem to have somewhat favoured preservation of the enamel parts of teeth but even these are highly fragmented and in certain cases it was not possible to ascertain with any degree of confidence the animal represented.

Evidence of burning

A sheep/goat astragalus from fill 1120 in pit G3036 had been burnt/heat shattered. Very small fragments of burnt/calced bone came from the fill 2087 in Enclosure 13 ditch G3164.

Conclusion

The quantity of identified bone is much too small to provide a clear picture of the local livestock economy other than to suggest cattle may have been more important than sheep. On the evidence of the submitted bones, there is no indication of the exploitation of wild game, wildfowl or fish as a food source.

6.2 The charred plant macrofossils by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Soil samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and twenty five were submitted for assessment.

The samples were largely bulk floated by NA, although a 10litre sub-sample of the waterlogged well fill was hand processed by the author. In both instances, the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve, but while most were air-dried prior to sorting, the material from the well fill was stored in water. Both dried flots and wet retents were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Tables 10 and 11. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (1997). Both charred and waterlogged macrofossils were recorded, with the latter being denoted within the table by a lower case 'w' suffix. Modern fibrous roots and seeds were also noted within the charred assemblages.

The non-floating residue from the well fill was retained in a 1mm mesh sieve to be sorted when dry as part of the final analysis. Any artefacts/ecofacts have been retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereal grains, chaff and seeds of common weeds and wetland plants were present at varying densities within all but four of the assemblages studied. However, it was noted that a number of macrofossils were heavily coated within mineralised concretions of silt and grits. Such agglomerations would certainly preclude the full retrieval of plant remains during flotation, and this may explain why some assemblages were both small and principally composed of the larger and more buoyant macrofossils. Preservation of the charred remains which were collected was generally good, although some grains were puffed and distorted, and a number of seeds had lost their diagnostic testae. Such damage was probably the result of combustion at very high temperatures. The waterlogged macrofossils were mostly robust, although some distortion had occurred as a result of the compaction of the deposit.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded, with wheat being predominant throughout. The wheat grains were mostly of an elongated 'drop' form typical of spelt (*T. spelta*), and spelt glume bases were also present within ten assemblages. However, a number of more rounded hexaploid type grains were also noted, and well fill [2264] in (G3201, sample 20) did include charred bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes. Barley grains occurred within eleven assemblages, and were moderately common within the sample from Roman pit [1121] in cluster G3037 (sample 6). Asymmetrical lateral grains of six-row barley (*H. vulgare*) were noted within the assemblages from samples 4 (pit G3221) and 6. Oat grain and awn fragments occurred relatively infrequently. However, wild oat (*A. fatua*) floret bases were recorded from samples 6 and 20. Sample 9, from the southern boundary ditch G3031, included a single fragment of an indeterminate large pulse (Fabaceae), possible of pea/bean type.

Although a reasonably comprehensive list of weed species was recorded, most seeds occurred as single specimens within an assemblage. Segetal weeds and grassland herbs were predominant, although seeds of ruderal weeds (principally of colonising species) were also noted. The segetal taxa noted most frequently included orache (*Atriplex* sp.), brome (*Bromus* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), field madder (*Sherardia arvensis*) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*). Grass fruits (Poaceae) were common throughout, and grassland herb seeds included specimens of mallow (*Malva* sp.), medick/clover/trefoil (*Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus* sp.), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), chickweed (*Stellaria media*) and hedge parsley (*Torilis japonica*). Seeds of ruderal weeds, including greater burdock (*Arctium lappa*), thistle (*Cirsium* sp.), hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), dead-nettle (*Lamium* sp.), nightshade (*Solanum* sp.), sow-thistle (*Sonchus asper*) and stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*) were largely confined to the well fill. Wetland plant macrofossils were relatively scarce, although sedge (*Carex* sp.) nutlets were noted along with seeds of blinks (*Montia fontana*). Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments were present within samples 4, 11 (pit G3060) and 20, and sample 5 (pit G3221) included a possible fragment of bramble type (*Rubus* sp.) 'pip'.

Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout along with pieces of charred root or stem. Sample 20 included a high density of waterlogged root/stem fragments. Other plant macrofossils were generally scarce, but did include fragments of heather (Ericaceae) stem and indeterminate buds, culm nodes, inflorescence fragments, moss fronds (from sample 20) and tubers. A single onion-couch

(*Arrhenatherum* sp.) type tuber was noted within the assemblage from sample 19 (pit G3199).

The fragments of black porous and tarry material were all probable residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Other remains included bone fragments (several of which were burnt/calcined), small pellets of burnt or fired clay, ferrous hammer scale and spherules, small pieces of coal and vitreous concretions. Waterlogged arthropod remains were moderately common within well fill (2264).

Discussion

For the purposes of this discussion, the samples have been dealt with by date and context type.

Early Neolithic pit fills (Table 10)

Samples were taken from pit [1183] (sample 10 and 11) and from [1230] in cluster G3224 (sample 15). All three assemblages are very small, containing little other than charcoal/charred wood fragments and occasional cereal grains.

Possible Late Iron Age pit fill (Table 10)

Sample 22, from fill (2432) within pit [2434]/G3092, was the only pit fill of probable Iron Age date to be sampled. Although small (<0.1 litres in volume), the assemblage includes a moderate density of segetal weed and grassland herb seeds as well as wetland plant macrofossils. Cereal remains are, however, scarce, and although it is possible that the assemblage is derived from cereal processing waste, it is equally likely that it may represent the residue from a small quantity of burnt bedding or litter.

Roman pit fills (Table 10)

Of the nine pit assemblages of Roman date, three are of particular note. Sample 6, from pit [1121] in cluster G3037, contains a moderate to high density of cereal grains and seeds of common segetal weeds, with many of the latter being of a similar size to the grains. Such assemblages are often interpreted as the residue from the later stages of processing, where contaminants within a batch of semi-cleaned or prime grain were removed by hand immediately prior to consumption. In contrast, the assemblage from sample 17 (pit [2039] in pit cluster G3195) contains high densities of cereals and chaff (predominantly of wheat), but fewer weed seeds. Such assemblages are probably derived from an earlier stage of processing, where the grains, still tightly enclosed within the spikelets, were parched to remove the chaff. Such a process, if not closely supervised, frequently resulted in small batches of charred grain. The assemblage from sample 24 (pit G3026) is very similar in composition to that from sample 17, and may also be derived from parching waste.

It may be worth noting that samples 4 and 6 both contain ferrous hammer scale and spherules, possibly indicating that pits G3021 and G3220 were situated within a reasonably close proximity to an area in which smithing activities were being undertaken.

Other pit fills (Table 10)

The assemblage from sample 14 (pit [1227]/G3223) contains only modern roots and seeds.

Roman ditch fills (Table 11)

Two ditches ([2019/G3187] sample 16) and ([1154]/G3031 sample 9) were sampled. The assemblage from sample 16 is essentially similar to that from Iron Age pit G3492 (see above sample 22), in that weed seeds, including those of grassland herbs, are predominant, although a lower density of material is represented. The assemblage from sample 9, taken from the major southern boundary ditch is almost certainly at least partly derived from cereal processing waste, although in this instance, the abundance of black porous and tarry residues may indicate that the waste was used as either tinder or kindling within a hearth. Such practise was common during the Roman period (cf Van der Veen 1999), where the use of chaff is known within both industrial and domestic contexts.

Roman corn drier G3208 (Table 11)

Two samples were taken from the drier, one (sample 26) from the firing chamber and one (sample 23) from the flue. The assemblage from sample 26 is composed almost entirely of small fragments of burnt or fired clay, which are presumably derived from the base or walls of the chamber. With the exception of occasional small charcoal fragments, other remains are entirely absent. In contrast, the flue sample does contain a small number of grains, chaff elements and seeds, which are probably derived from a mixture of spent fuel and the residue from the final firing of the drier. Overall, however, it would appear that the structure was kept scrupulously clean, presumably as a means of preventing accidental fires.

Roman well G3201 (Table 11)

A single sample was taken from the waterlogged fill of the well. The assemblage is both unusual and interesting, as it contains both charred cereals and chaff and waterlogged seeds of grassland herbs and ruderal weeds. Although the well has a spot date of the second century AD, it would appear most likely that all of the recorded remains are indicative of the period soon after most nearby activity ceased and when the well first began to infill, presumably as it fell out of use. Whilst it is assumed that the charred remains were accidentally incorporated within the fill, presumably in the form of wind-blown detritus, the waterlogged seed assemblage shows that the immediate area soon became overgrown with rank grassland, including stands of nettles and colonising weeds such as hemlock. However, the fact that woody shrubs such as elderberry and bramble are not represented may indicate that the infilling of the well occurred quite rapidly.

Other samples (Table 11)

Samples were taken from quarry pit G3095 (sample 25), cremation pit G3220 (samples 1 and 2), and from two associated burnt-out postholes (samples 12 and 13). The two postholes [1202] and [1205] were undated and are unphased (G3060). All five assemblages are very sparse, containing little other than charcoal/charred wood fragments and, in the case of the cremation, pieces of burnt/calined bone. The small number of grains noted within the upper fill of the cremation pit are almost certainly accidental inclusions, with nothing whatsoever to suggest that they were deliberately placed within the pyre as offerings to the deceased.

Conclusions

In summary, although most of the current assemblages are small (ie 0.1 litres in volume or less), some are of particular note as they do provide indications of how various aspects of the site and its environs functioned during the Iron Age and Roman periods. At least two stages of cereal processing are represented, although it would appear that this activity was conducted on a relatively small scale, possibly just meeting the everyday needs of those who lived and worked in the immediate vicinity. Although wheat was obviously of some significance to the local economy, the importance of barley is unclear; it occurs too frequently to be definitely considered a contaminant, but at an insufficient density to be a main crop. However, when considered alongside the occurrence of grassland herbs within the assemblages, it

may be that the barley is present primarily as cattle fodder. Such a conclusion would be consistent with the results noted at the adjacent site at Upton (Fryer 2006), where a largely pastoral economy was indicated. The composition of the well assemblage from the current site appears to indicate the use of the site was relatively fluid, with some areas and features falling out of use whilst others were developed. Certainly it would appear that the area around the well rapidly became covered with rank grassland, suggesting that it saw very little in the way of human or animal traffic.

Table 10: The charred plant macrofossil results from pits (Part 1)

Sample No.	10	11	15	22	3	6	8
Context No.	1181	1182	1228	2432	1099	1120	1124
Feature No.	1183	1183	1230	2434	1102	1121	1125
Group No	G3224	G3224	G3224	G3092	G3220	G3037	G3037
Phase	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.4	2.2	2.2	2.2
Cereals							
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	-	-	-	-	-	xcf	-
(awn frags.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(floret)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>A. fatua</i> L. (floret base)	-	-	-	-	-	xcf	-
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	-	xcf	-	x	xcf	xxx	-
(rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
<i>H. vulgare</i> L. (asymmetrical lateral grains)	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
<i>Hordeum/Secale cereale</i> type (rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	-	-	-	x	xcf	xxx	x
(glume bases)	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
(spikelet bases)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(rachis internodes)	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	-	-	-	x	-	x	x
Cereal indet. (grains)	-	x	x	xx	x	xxxx	x
(basal rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(detached sprouts)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herbs							
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-	-	-
Apiaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arrhenatherum</i> sp. (tuber)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asteraceae indet.	-	-	-	xx	-	-	-
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	-	-	-	x	-	x	-
<i>Brassica</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
<i>Bromus</i> sp.	-	-	-	x	-	xx	x
Caryophyllaceae indet.	-	-	-	x	-	-	-
<i>Centaurea</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-	x	-
Chenopodiaceae indet.	-	-	-	x	-	x	-
Fabaceae indet.	-	-	-	xx	-	xx	x
(pod frag.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) A. Love	-	-	-	xx	-	x	-
<i>Galium</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>G. aparine</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-	xx	-
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.	-	-	-	x	-	x	-
<i>Papaver dubium</i> L.	-	-	-	xcf	-	-	-

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<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	-	-	-	X	-	X	-
Small Poaceae indet.	-	-	-	X	-	XX	-
Large Poaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-	X	-
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	-	-	-	XX	-	X	-
Polygonaceae indet.	-	-	-	X	-	XX	-
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	X	-
<i>R. acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (siliquae/frags.)	-	-	-	-	-	X	-
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	-	-	-	XX	-	XX	-
<i>R. acetosella</i> L.	-	-	-	X	-	X	-
<i>Rumex/Carex</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Silene</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	X	-
<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.) Vill	-	-	-	X	-	xcf	-
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Schultz-Bip	-	-	-	X	-	XX	-
Wetland plants							
<i>Carex</i> sp.	-	-	-	X	-	X	-
<i>Montia fontana</i> L.	-	-	-	XX	-	-	-
Tree/shrub macrofossils							
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	-	xcf	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rubus</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other plant macrofossils							
Charcoal <2mm	X	XXX	XX	XXX	-	XXX	XXXX
Charcoal >2mm	X	X	X	XXX	X	XX	XX
Charcoal >5mm	XX	XX	X	X	X	X	X
Charcoal >10mm	X	XX	X	-	X	-	X
Charred root/stem	-	-	X	XXX	-	XX	X
Indet.culm nodes	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
Indet.seeds	-	-	-	XX	-	XX	-
Indet.tubers	-	-	-	-	X	-	-
Ericaceae indet. (stem)	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-
Other remains							
Black porous 'cokey' material	-	-	X	-	-	XXX	X
Black tarry material	-	-	-	-	-	XX	X
Burnt organic concretion	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
Charred arthropod remains	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fe. Hammer scale & globules	-	-	-	-	X	X	X
Small coal frags.	-	-	X	-	-	X	X
Vitreous material	-	-	-	-	-	X	X
Sample volume (litres)							
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%

Table 10: The charred plant macrofossil results from pits (Part 2)

Sample No.	7	4	5	24	17	19	18
Context No.	1122	1100	1101	1399	2037	2230	2190
Feature No.	1125	1102	1102	1401	2039	2231	2191
Group No	G3037	G3221	G3221	G3026	G3195	G3199	G3195
Phase	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3
Cereals							
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	-	-	-	xx	xcf	-	-
(awn frags.)	-	-	-	x	x	-	-
(floret)	-	-	-	x	-	-	-
<i>A. fatua</i> L. (floret base)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	-	x	x	-	x		xcf
(rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	x	-	-
<i>H. vulgare</i> L. (asymmetrical lateral grains)	-	xcf	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum/Secale cereale</i> type (rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	-	x	xcf	xxx	xxx	x	x
(glume bases)	-	-	x	xx	xxx	-	-
(spikelet bases)	-	-	-	xx	x	-	x
(rachis internodes)	-	-	-	xx	x	-	-
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	-	x	x	xxxx	xxx	-	--
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	x	xxxx	xxx	x	xx
(basal rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	x	-	-
(detached sprouts)	-	-	-	xx	-	-	-
Herbs							
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	-	-	-	xcf	-	-	-
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	-	-	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i> L.	-	-	-	-		-	-
Apiaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Arrhenatherum</i> sp. (tuber)	-	-	-	-	-	x	-
Asteraceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	-	-	-	x	-	-	x
<i>Brassica</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Bromus</i> sp.		x	xcf	-	xx	-	-
Caryophyllaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Centaurea</i> sp.	-	-	-	x	-	-	-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-	-	-
Chenopodiaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fabaceae indet.	-	x	x	-	x	-	x
(pod frag.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	x
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) A. Love	-	-	x	x	-	-	x
<i>Galium</i> sp.	-	-	-		-	x	
<i>G. aparine</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-	-	x
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.	-	-	-		x	x	x
<i>Papaver dubium</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	-	-	X	-	X	-	-
Small Poaceae indet.	-	xcf	X	X	X	-	X
Large Poaceae indet.	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	-	-	X	-	-	X	xcf
Polygonaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	X	-	-
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>R. acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (siliquae/frags.)	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	-	X	-	X	X	X	X
<i>R. acetosella</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rumex/Carex</i> sp.	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Silene</i> sp.	-	-	-	X	-	-	X
<i>Stellaria media</i> (L.) Vill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Schultz-Bip	-	-	-	X	-	-	X
Wetland plants							
<i>Carex</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	X	X	X
<i>Montia fontana</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tree/shrub macrofossils							
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rubus</i> sp.	-	-	xcf	-	-	-	-
Other plant macrofossils							
Charcoal <2mm	X	xxx	xx	X	xxxx	xxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	X	xxx	xx	-	xxx	X	xx
Charcoal >5mm	-	xx	xx	-	xx	X	X
Charcoal >10mm	X	X	xx	-			
Charred root/stem	X	xx	-	X	X	X	xxx
Indet.culm nodes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indet.seeds	-	X	X	X	X	-	X
Indet.tubers	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
Ericaceae indet. (stem)	-	xx	-	-	-	xcf	xx
Other remains							
Black porous 'cokey' material	-	X	-	xx	-	X	X
Black tarry material	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
Burnt organic concretion	-	-	-		-	-	-
Charred arthropod remains	-	-	-	xcf	-	-	-
Fe. Hammerscale & globules	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
Small coal frags.	X	xxx	-	-	-	-	X
Vitreous material	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
Sample volume (litres)							
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	100%	100%

Table 11: The charred plant macrofossil results from other features (Part 1)

Sample No.	25	20	26	23	9
Context No.	2642	2264	2683	2507	1153
Feature No.	2643	2258	2511	2511	1154
Feature type	Quarry pit	Well	Corndryer	Corndryer	Bdy ditch
Group	G3095	G3201	G3208	G3208	G3031
Phase	1.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Cereals and other possible food plants					
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	-	-	-	X	-
(awn frags.)	-	X	-	X	-
<i>A. fatua</i> L. (florete)	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	-		-	X	X
(rachis nodes)	-	X	-	-	X
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	-	X	-	XX	XXX
(glume bases)	-	X	-	X	
(spikelet bases)	-		-	X	X
(rachis internodes)	-	X	-	-	-
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	-	xx	-	X	xx
(spikelet fork)	-	X	-	-	-
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis node)	-	X	-	-	-
Cereal indet. (grains)	-	xfg	-	xx	xxx
(basal rachis nodes)	-	X	-	-	-
(detached embryos)	-	-	-	X	-
Large Fabaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	X
Herbs					
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	-		-	X	-
<i>Arctium lappa</i> L.	-	xw	-	-	-
Asteraceae indet.	-	xw	-	X	-
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	-	xw	-	X	X
<i>Bromus</i> sp.	-	X	-	X	XX
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Cirsium</i> sp.	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.	-	xxw	-	-	-
Fabaceae indet.	-	-	-	X	xxx
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) A. Love	-	-	-	X	X
<i>Galium</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>G. aparine</i> L.	-	-	-	-	X
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> L.	-	xcfw	-	-	-
<i>Lamium</i> sp.	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Malva</i> sp.	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.	-		-	-	X
<i>Medicago lupulina</i> L.	-	-	-	-	xcf
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>	-	-	-	X	-
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	-	-	-	-	X

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Small Poaceae indet.	-	xw	-	x	xx
Large Poaceae indet.	-	-	-		x
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	-	xw	-	x	xx
Polygonaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	x
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (siliquae/frags.)	-	-	-	-	xfg
Rosaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	x
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	-	xxxw	-	x	xxx
<i>R. acetosella</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i> L.	-	-	-		-
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	-	-	-	x	-
<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L.	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) Hill	-	xxw	-	-	-
<i>S. oleraceus</i> L.	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Stellaria graminea</i> L.	-	-	-	-	x
<i>S. media</i> (L.) Vill	-	xxw	-	-	x
<i>Torilis japonica</i> (Houtt) DC	-	xw	-	-	-
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Schultz-Bip	-	-	-	x	x
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L.	-	xxxxw	-	-	-
<i>U. urens</i> L.	-	xw	-	-	-
Wetland plants					
<i>Carex</i> sp.	-	xw	-	-	-
Tree/shrub macrofossils					
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	-	xw	-	-	-
Other plant macrofossils					
Charcoal <2mm	-	xx	x	xx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	x	xx	-	x	xx
Charcoal >5mm	-	x	-	-	x
Charcoal >10mm	-	x	-	-	x
Charred root/stem	-	x	-	-	x
Waterlogged root/stem	-	xxxx	-	-	-
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> L. (capsule frags.)	-	-	-	-	-
Indet. bud	-	-	-	-	-
Indet. culm nodes	-	x	-	-	-
Indet. inflorescence frags.	-	-	-	x	x
Indet. moss	-	xw	-	-	-
Indet. seeds	-	-	-	-	xxx
Wood >5mm	-	xw	-	-	-
Other remains					
Black porous 'cokey' material	-	-	-	xx	xxx
Black tarry material	-	-	-	-	xxx
Bone	-	-	-	-	x xb
Cladoceran ephippia	-	xw	-	-	-
Fe. Hammer scale	-	-	-	-	x

Small coal frags.	-	-	-	x	x
Waterlogged arthropod remains	-	xx	-	-	-
Sample volume (litres)					
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 11: The charred plant macrofossil results from other features (Part 2)

Sample No.	1	2	16	12	13
Context No.	1103	1104	2020	1201	1204
Feature No.	1105	1105	2019	1202	1205
Feature type	Crem.pit	Crem.pit	Bdy ditch	Posthole	Posthole
Group	G3220	G3220	G3186	G3060	G3060
Phase	2.2	2.2	2.3	Unphased	Unphased
Cereals and other possible food plants					
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	-	-	-	-	-
(awn frags.)	-	-	-	-	-
<i>A. fatua</i> L. (floret)	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	-	-	xcf	-	-
(rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	xcf	-	x	-	-
(glume bases)	-	-	x	-	-
(spikelet bases)	-	-	-	-	-
(rachis internodes)	-	-	-	-	-
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	-	-	-	-	-
(spikelet fork)	-	-	-	-	-
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis node)	-	-	-	-	-
Cereal indet. (grains)	xfg	-	xfg	-	-
(basal rachis nodes)	-	-	-	-	-
(detached embryos)	-	-	-	-	-
Large Fabaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-
Herbs					
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arctium lappa</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
Asteraceae indet.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Bromus</i> sp.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cirsium</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
Fabaceae indet.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.)A.Love	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Galium</i> sp.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>G. aparine</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-

SITES F AND G WEEDON ROAD, UPTON

<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Lamium</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Malva</i> sp.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Medicago lupulina</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	-	-	xx	-	-
Small Poaceae indet.	-	-	x	-	-
Large Poaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
Polygonaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	-	-	x	-	-
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	-	-	xcf	-	-
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (siliquae/frags.)	-	-	-	-	-
Rosaceae indet.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	-	-	xx	-	-
<i>R. acetosella</i> L.	-	-		-	-
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i> L.	-	-	xcf	-	-
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) Hill	-	-	-	-	-
<i>S. oleraceus</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Stellaria graminea</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>S. media</i> (L.) Vill	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Torilis japonica</i> (Houtt) DC	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Schultz-Bip	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
<i>U. urens</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
Wetland plants					
<i>Carex</i> sp.	-	x	x	-	-
Tree/shrub macrofossils					
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-
Other plant macrofossils					
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	xxx		xx	xxx	xxxx
Charcoal >5mm	x		x	xxx	xxx
Charcoal >10mm	x		x	xx	x
Charred root/stem	x	x	x	-	-
Waterlogged root/stem	-	-		-	-
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> L. (capsule frags.)	-	-	xcf	-	-
Indet.bud	-	-	x	-	-
Indet.culm nodes	-	-	-	-	-
Indet.inflorescence frags.	-	-	-	-	-
Indet.moss	-	-	-	-	-
Indet.seeds	-	-	xx	-	-

Wood >5mm	-	-	-	-	-
Other remains					
Black porous 'cokey' material	xx	-	x	-	-
Black tarry material	x	-	-	-	-
Bone	xxb	-	xb	x	x
Cladoceran ephippia	-	-	-	-	-
Fe. Hammer scale	-	-	-	-	-
Small coal frags.	-	-	x	-	-
Waterlogged arthropod remains	-	-	-	-	-
Sample volume (litres)					
Volume of flot (litres)	0.4	<0.1	0.1	0.2	<0.1
% flot sorted	25%	100%	100%	50%	100%

Key to Table

x = 1-10 specimens; xx = 11-50 specimens; xxx = 51-100 specimens; xxxx = 100+ specimens
 cf = compare; fg = fragment; b = burnt; w = waterlogged; crem.pit = pit with cremated bone

7 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

7.1 Stratigraphic and structural data

The excavation data was recorded to a sufficient standard to allow further analysis to take place.

Range and variety of feature types

The range of features recorded on the site is listed below (Table 12). The overwhelming majority of the contexts recorded related to ditches and gullies (68% of total number of contexts); pits formed 20%; postholes 3% and extraction pits/quarry pits 3% of the total. All other feature types combined represented 6% of the total recorded.

Table 12: Total number of recorded feature types and associated number of contexts

Feature type	Number of feature types*	Total number of contexts
<i>Extensive layers:</i>		
Accumulation	3	3
Colluvium	1	1
Make Up	2	2
Natural	2	2
Subsoil	2	2
Topsoil	2	2
Corn dryer	1	7
Cremation pit	1	3
Ditch	298	669
Extraction pit	7	31
Gully	45	93
Hollow	2	10
Pit	85	220
Plough furrow	2	6
Post pipe	1	10
Posthole	16	33
Surface - external	5	9
Well	2	9
Wheel rut	1	2
Totals	478	1114

* These represent the number of excavated elements of linear features and larger pits and do not represent the total number of individual feature types

7.2 Flint

No further analysis is required. A report will be included in the final publication.

7.3 Iron Age pottery

No further analysis is required for the small assemblage of Iron Age pottery; a report will be included in the final publication.

7.4 Romano-British pottery

The pottery needs to be analysed in relation to the phased site data. Within the assemblage two sizeable groups, and at least some of the other contexts with more than 500g of pottery, are worthy of more detailed analysis. In addition, there are a number of vessels of intrinsic interest from other contexts. The availability of additional site information will clearly enable an appropriate consideration of the

dating, development, nature and function of the features uncovered in the 2012 excavation, thus allowing a comparison with the previously-excavated and published adjacent sites.

7.5 Ceramic building material

No further analysis is required. A report will be included in the final publication.

7.6 Metalworking debris

No further analysis is required. A report will be included in the final publication.

7.7 Other finds

The iron items need to be x-rayed and fully described.

7.8 Human cremated remains

No further analysis is required. A report will be included in the final publication..

7.9 Faunal remains

No further analysis is required. A report will be included in the final publication.

7.10 Charred plant macrofossils

Seven samples contain a sufficient density of material for quantification and are suitable for further analysis. These will be analysed in relation to the environmental remains from the earlier phases of excavation to increase the understanding of the wider landscape.

Sample 22	Pit 3092	(Phase 1.4, late Iron Age)
Sample 6	Pit 3037	(Phase 2.2, 2nd century AD)
Sample 9	Boundary ditch 3031	(Phase 2.2, 2nd century AD)
Sample 20	Well 3201	(Phase 2.2, 2nd century AD)
Sample 24	Pit 3026	(Phase 2.2, 2nd century AD)
Sample 16	Boundary ditch 3186	(Phase 2.3, 3rd century AD)
Sample 17	Pit 3195	(Phase 2.3, 3rd century AD)

8 REVIEW OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

8.1 General objectives

The purpose of the work is to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting.

The archaeological works have succeeded in recording the archaeological remains on site. The programme of assessment works already undertaken and the proposed programme of further works and publication will enable the full realisation of this objective.

8.2 Specific objectives

Investigate the spatial extent, morphology and function of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age activity at Upton

The excavation provided no evidence for activity during this period, however, a small number of pits have been dated to the early Neolithic period and this will be investigated as a updated research objective.

Refine understanding of how the field and boundary systems of the Roman period relate to the earlier systems of land allotment

The results of the excavation provide a good and clear stratigraphic sequence of development for the field systems within the development area for the Romano-British period. Analysis of this sequence in relation to the earlier, Iron Age land distribution pattern should add to the understanding of land use and development.

Examine the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion and the development of field systems in the Roman period

Analysis of the results of the excavation in relation to the previously investigated elements of the landscape should contribute to the understanding of the changing nature of Romano-British rural settlement. However, the absence of latest Romano-British activity will restrict analysis of the full period.

Refining our understanding of the Iron Age/Roman settlement patterns at Upton

The Upton area has been subject to a number of archaeological interventions within the last 10 to 15 years, therefore looking at the current site in relation to previously published material should contribute to the understanding of the wider settlement patterns in the local area for both the Iron Age and Romano-British period.

Recovering palaeo-environmental remains to determine past local environmental conditions

Environmental remains were recovered from a number of features across the site and for the Romano-British period a small number of the samples recovered merit further analysis to address questions concerning the prevailing local environmental conditions.

How the Iron Age and Roman activity related to the nearby 'small town' at Duston

The results of the excavations at Weedon Road, Upton will be analysed in relation to available records for the town at Duston. However, as much of the area was subject to quarrying and development prior to the inception of commercial archaeology it is anticipated that the records will only be sufficient to draw the broadest conclusions.

8.3 Updated research objectives

A number of further research objectives have been identified following the assessment of the results of the excavation that could not have been anticipated prior to the start of the project. All have been related to the appropriate section of the regional research agenda (Knight *et al* 2012).

Prehistoric**Early Neolithic****3.9.1 Investigate production and exchange of lithic tools.**

Analysis of the group of flints and the axe flake found in pit G3224 should contribute to both the understanding of local production and the range of exchanged goods within the Neolithic.

Iron Age**4.6.2 The role of pit alignments and linear ditch systems within the landscape**

Study of the early Iron Age pit alignment and its replacement with a series of long-lived linear boundaries extending in use till the immediate pre-Roman period should contribute to the understanding of these features within the wider local and regional landscape.

4.6.3 The role of linear boundaries and agrarian landscape change

The middle to late Iron Age settlement identified in the excavation was clearly related to the use of the boundary and responded to changes in its layout. Analysis of this aspect of the settlement should contribute towards the understanding of the pattern of rural landscape change.

9 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMME**9.1 Work completed**

All work has been completed, on all aspects of the project, to assessment stage.

9.2 Future works

In order to address the updated research aims identified in Section 8 and bring the project to final reporting and publication a programme of future works will be undertaken.

Table 13: Post-excavation analysis task list

Tasks	Personnel
1. Report introduction and background	Liz Muldowney
2. Report structural site narrative	Liz Muldowney
3. Documentary research	Liz Muldowney
4. Romano-British pottery analysis and report	Rob Perrin
5. Charred plant remains analysis and report	Val Fryer
6. Other finds	Tora Hylton
7. Illustrations	Amir Bassir
8. Integration of specialist reports	Liz Muldowney
9. Report digest and discussion	Liz Muldowney
10. Editing/proof reading	Andy Chapman & Pat Chapman
11. Preparation of research archive	Theodora Anastasiadou-Leigh

9.3 Programme

The programme will commence once the Assessment Report and UPD has been approved by the County Archaeological Advisor.

Table 14: Post-excavation analysis programme

Task / month	1	2	3
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

10 REPORTING, PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVE

10.1 Reporting

A full site report will be prepared by MOLA. This will form the basis of a short article to be submitted to the journal of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society. The proposed structure of the report is as follows:

1 INTRODUCTION

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, topography and geology

2.2 Previous archaeological work

3 OBJECTIVES

4 METHODOLOGY

5 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

5.1 Summary of site chronology

5.2 Early Neolithic and early Iron Age pits

5.3 Iron Age boundary and settlement

5.4 Romano-British landscape

5.5 Medieval to post-medieval agrarian landscape

6 THE FINDS

6.1 The worked flint by Andy Chapman

6.2 The Iron Age pottery by Andy Chapman

6.3 The Romano-British pottery by Rob Perrin

6.4 The Romano-British finds by Tora Hylton *et al*

7 THE HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS (TBC)

8 THE FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

8.1 The animal bone by Philip Armitage

8.2 The charred macrofossils by Val Fryer

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Neolithic tool production and distribution

9.2 The early Iron Age pit alignment

9.3 The mid to late Iron Age boundary and settlement

9.3 The Romano-British settlement

9.4 The medieval to post-medieval landscape

Each section will be subdivided where necessary to articulate intra-period phasing and to address specific research aims. Within the narrative text illustrations will include overall phase plans, detailed drawings of individual features or feature groups, photographs and finds illustrations. The discussion will include figures showing the archaeological context of the works in relation to other archaeological investigations discussed in the text and other figures as necessary.

10.2 Archive

A digital copy of the site archive and the site narrative will be made to RCHME standards and submitted to the National Archaeological Record. The archive will comprise all written, drawn and photographic records, and all material finds and processed sample residues recovered from the excavation. All records and finds

generated by the excavation will be compiled in a structured archive in accordance with the guidelines of Appendix 3 in the English Heritage procedural documents, *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991) and *MoRPHE* (EH 2006). Site details will be entered onto the OASIS online database.

10.3 Excavation records archive

The records generated by the excavation have all been cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The context records and finds catalogues have been entered on to a database (Access 2007). All records and finds are kept under the site code WEUP 12.

The excavation generated the following records:

1137	Context records
48	pencil drawn plans on A3 permatrace sheets (varying scales)
310	pencil drawn sections on 47 A3 permatrace sheets (varying scales)
23	Environmental sample records
44	Photographic record sheets (15 for colour slide, 15 for monochrome and 14 for digital images)
15	monochrome films, 15 colour slide films and 579 digital images
39	context registers
7	Section registers
2	Section sheet registers
2	Plan registers
3	Individually recorded finds registers
5	Timber recording sheets
7	levels sheets

10.4 The finds archive

Table 15: Finds archive quantities

Material	Quantity	Weight
Iron Age pottery	157 sherds	905g
Romano-British pottery	1765 sherds	35kg
Metalworking debris	4 fragments	65g
Ceramic building material		
Tile	26	2224g
Fired clay	74	5124g
Flint	29 pieces	-
Individually recorded finds	25 (total number)	-
Animal bone	-	-
Environmental flots	25 flots	-

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXTS BY GROUP AND PHASE

Period 1 Phase 1

Group	Name	Context
3224	Pit cluster	1182 1183 1228 1229 1230

Period 1 Phase 2

Group	Name	Context
3073	Pit	2008 2009 2010

Period 1 Phase 3

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3061	Boundary ditch	2354 2474	
3062	Boundary ditch	2353 2473	
3063	Boundary ditch	2005 2349 2352 2468	
3064	Boundary ditch	2004 2347 2348 2350 2351 2466 2467	
3065	Boundary ditch	2346	
3066	Boundary ditch	2345 2465	
3067	Boundary ditch	2464	
3068	Boundary ditch	2461 2462 2463	
3069	Boundary ditch	2460	
3070	Boundary ditch	2458 2459 2490	LC1
3071	Boundary ditch	2344 2457	
3072	Boundary ditch	2343 2456	
3074	Boundary ditch	2359	
3075	Boundary ditch	2358	
3076	Boundary ditch	2311 2361 2450 2565 2576	
3077	Boundary ditch	2310 2360 2448 2449 2563 2564 2575	
3080	Pit cluster	2451 2452 2453	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3096	Pit	2454	
		2455	
		2533	
		2534	
		2559	
		2560	
		2622	
		2623	
		2624	
		2625	
3140	Pit	2626	
		2245	
		2246	
3212	Boundary ditch	2247	
		2471	
3213	Boundary ditch	2472	
		2469	
3214	Pit	2470	
		2586	
		2587	

Period 1 Phase 4

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3078	Boundary	2372	
3079	Boundary	2371	
3081	Hollow	2362	
		2363	
		2374	
		2375	
3082	Boundary	2585	
3083	Boundary	2583	
		2584	
		2438	
3084	Enclosure 8	2440	
		2476	
		2532	
		2553	
		2695	
3085	Enclosure 8	2437	LIA?
		2439	
		2475	
		2531	
		2552	
3086	Enclosure 9	2694	
		2696	
		2444	
		2483	
		2487	
3087	Enclosure 9	2547	
		2443	
		2481	LC1-C2
		2482	LIA?
		2486	
3088	Enclosure 9	2491	
		2546	
		2368	
		2442	
		2478	
3089	Enclosure 9	2535	
		2700	
		2366	
		2367	Iron Age
		2441	LC1

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2445	
		2477	
		2492	
		2536	
		2545	IA
3090	Enclosure 9	2480	
3091	Enclosure 9	2479	
3092	Pit	2431	LIA?
		2432	LIA?
		2433	LC1
		2434	
3093	Ditch segment	2540	
		2549	
3094	Ditch segment	2539	
		2548	
3095	Extraction pits	2579	C2-C3?+
		2580	
		2581	IA
		2582	
		2597	
		2598	
		2599	
		2604	
		2605	
		2636	
		2637	LC1-C2
		2638	
		2639	
		2640	
		2641	LIA
		2642	IA
		2642	LC1
		2643	
		2688	
		2689	
		2690	
		2691	
		2692	
3097	Extraction pit	2618	
		2619	
		2620	
		2621	
3127	Extraction pit	2092	
		2093	
		2132	
		2133	
		2134	
		2135	
		2136	

Period 2 Phase 1

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3000	Enclosure 10	1005	
		1045	
		1047	
		1049	
		1055	
		1074	
		1098	
		1119	
		1163	
		1176	
		1194	
		1209	
		1004	
		1044	
		1046	
3001	Enclosure 10	1048	
		1054	C2
		1073	
		1097	C2
		1118	LC1
		1162	
		1175	LC1-C2
		1192	C2
		1193	
		1208	
3002	Ditch segment	1171	
		1223	
3003	Ditch segment	1170	
		1224	
3008	Ditch segment	1133	
		1150	
		1232	
3009	Ditch segment	1132	
		1149	C2
		1231	
3010	Stock division ditches	1014	
		1029	
		1038	
		1076	
		1078	
		1084	
		1086	
		1088	
		1090	
		1092	
		1107	
		1109	
		1115	
		1117	
		1129	
3011	Stock division ditches	1148	
		1234	
		1015	
		1030	
		1037	C2
		1075	
		1077	
		1083	
		1085	
		1087	
		1089	
		1091	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		1106	
		1108	
		1114	
		1116	
		1128	
		1147	C2
		1233	
3014	Enclosure 11	1080	
		1082	
		1096	
		1142	
		1146	
		1158	
3015	Enclosure 11	1079	C2
		1081	
		1095	
		1141	C2
		1145	
		1157	C2
3016	Enclosure 11	1140	
		1144	
3017	Enclosure 11	1139	
		1143	
3215	Pit	1041	
		1042	
		1043	
3216	Subdivision ditch	1050	
		1051	

Period 2 Phase 2

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3004	Enclosure 18	1027	
		1059	
		1138	
		1165	
		1167	
		1178	
		1191	
3005	Enclosure 18	1026	C2
		1058	C2
		1136	C2
		1137	
		1164	
		1166	C2
		1177	C2
		1190	C3-C4
3006	Enclosure 18 ditch	1023	
		1053	
		1057	
		1061	
		1065	
3007	Enclosure 18 ditch	1022	C2
		1052	
		1056	C2-C3
		1060	C2
		1064	
3012	Enclosure ditch	1067	
		1094	
		1131	
		1221	
3013	Enclosure ditch	1066	
		1093	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		1130	C2-C3
		1222	
3018	Enclosure ditch	1011	
		1025	
		1072	
		1156	
3019	Enclosure ditch	1010	C2
		1024	C2
		1028	C2
		1070	C2
		1071	
		1155	C2
3020	L shaped ditch	1296	
		1305	
		1309	
		1430	
		1432	
3021	L shaped ditch	1295	C4?
		1304	
		1308	
		1429	
		1431	
3022	L shaped ditch	1299	
		1307	
		1311	
		1356	
		1435	
3023	L shaped ditch	1297	C2
		1298	
		1306	C2
		1310	
		1354	C2-C3
		1355	
		1434	
3024	Pit	1249	
		1265	
3025	Pit	1248	C2
		1258	
		1259	
		1260	
		1262	
		1263	
3026	Pit	1247	
		1353	
		1401	
		1424	
3027	Pit	1244	
		1245	C2
		1246	
		1252	C2
		1253	
		1254	
		1255	C2
		1256	
		1257	
		1261	C2?+
		1264	
		1352	
		1396	
		1397	
		1398	C2
		1399	
		1400	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3028	Enclosure 18	1251	
		1274	
		1280	
		1284	
		1286	
		1292	
		1323	
		1386	
		1250	C2
		1272	C2
3029	Enclosure 18	1273	
		1279	
		1283	
		1285	
		1290	C2
		1291	
		1321	
		1322	
		1384	C2
		1385	
3030	Pit cluster	1159	
		1160	C2
		1161	
		1270	
		1271	
		1425	
		1426	
		1427	
		1428	
		1009	
3031	Enclosure ditch	1021	
		1069	
		1154	
3032	Enclosure ditch	1008	C2
		1020	
		1068	C2-C3
3033	Enclosure ditch	1153	C2-C4
		1276	
		1278	
		1294	
		1320	
		1351	
		1383	
3034	Enclosure ditch	1390	
		1275	
		1277	
		1293	
		1315	C2
		1316	
		1317	
		1318	C2
		1319	
		1348	C2?+
		1349	
		1350	
		1381	C2
		1382	
		1389	C2
3035	Ditch	1017	
		1019	
3036	Ditch	1016	
		1018	
3037	Pit cluster	1120	C2

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		1121	
		1122	C2+C4
		1123	
		1124	C2
		1125	
		1151	
		1152	
3038	Enclosure ditch	1376	
		1377	
		1379	
		1417	
3039	Enclosure ditch	1375	
		1378	
		1380	
		1416	
3041	Trackway	1363	
		1373	
		1374	
		1409	
		1421	
3042	Trackway	1362	
		1373	
		1408	
3043	Enclosure 19	1337	
		1347	
		1395	
3044	Enclosure 19	1336	
		1346	
		1394	
3045	Trackway	1359	
		1360	
		1361	
		1364	
		1365	
		1372	
		1406	
		1407	
		1420	LC1-C2
3046	Enclosure ditch	1331	
		1339	
		1345	
3047	Enclosure ditch	1330	LC1-C2
		1338	
		1344	
		1404	
3098	Enclosure	2607	
		2613	
		2633	
3099	Enclosure	2606	
		2611	
		2612	
		2631	
		2632	
3100	Enclosure	2615	
		2628	
		2680	
3101	Enclosure	2614	
		2627	
		2678	C2-C3?+
		2679	
3102	Enclosure ditch segment	2669	
		2685	
3103	Enclosure ditch segment	2668	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2684	
3104	Enclosure ditch	2647	
3105	Enclosure ditch	2646	C3-C4
3106	Enclosure segment	2687	
3107	Enclosure segment	2686	
3108	Enclosure	2665	
		2671	
3109	Enclosure	2664	
		2670	C2-C3?+
3110	Enclosure segment	2667	
3111	Enclosure segment	2666	C2
3112	Enclosure	2610	
		2645	
		2663	
		2673	
3113	Enclosure	2608	C2
		2609	C2
		2644	C2
		2661	C2?+
		2662	
		2672	
3122	Hollow	2550	
		2551	
3128	Pit cluster	2181	C2-C3?+
		2182	
		2183	
		2184	C2
		2185	
		2186	
		2187	
		2188	
		2189	
3129	? L shaped ditch	2091	
		2111	
3130	? L shaped ditch	2090	
		2110	
3131	Ditch segment	2161	
		2217	
		2303	
3132	Ditch segment	2159	
		2160	
		2216	
		2302	
3133	Enclosure ditch segment	2197	
		2203	
3134	Enclosure ditch segment	2196	C2
		2202	
3135	Pit cluster	2200	
		2201	
		2212	
		2213	
		2214	
		2215	
3136	Enclosure	2193	
		2272	
		2305	
		2315	
		2401	
		2405	
3137	Enclosure	2192	C2
		2271	
		2304	
		2312	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2313	
		2400	
		2404	
3138	Enclosure	2279	
		2318	
		2325	
		2489	
		2496	
3139	Enclosure ditch	2277	
		2278	
		2316	LC1-C2
		2317	
		2324	
		2488	
		2495	
3141	Pit	2099	C2
		2100	
3142	Enclosure	2098	
		2103	
		2139	
3143	Enclosure	2096	C2-C3
		2097	LC1-C2
		2101	C2
		2102	
		2137	
		2138	C2
3144	Pit cluster	2064	C3?+
		2065	
		2078	
		2079	
		2080	C2
		2081	
		2082	C2
		2083	
		2326	
		2327	
		2328	
		2329	C2
		2330	
		2331	
		2408	
		2409	
		2410	
		2411	
3145	Enclosure	2146	
		2169	
		2239	
		2321	
		2386	
		2428	
		2513	
3146	Enclosure	2145	
		2168	
		2238	
		2319	C2
		2320	LC1-C2
		2385	C2?+
		2425	C3-C4
		2426	
		2427	
		2512	C2
3147	Pit	2429	
		2430	

SITES F AND G, WEEDON ROAD, UPTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3148	Enclosure ditch segment	2276	
		2424	
3149	Enclosure ditch segment	2275	
		2420	C3-C4
		2421	
		2422	
		2423	
3150	Boundary ditch	2167	
		2237	
3151	Boundary ditch	2165	
		2166	
		2236	
3152	Enclosure	2142	
		2150	
		2164	
		2235	
		2399	
3153	Enclosure	2140	
		2141	C2?+
		2149	C2-C3?+
		2162	C2?+
		2163	C2
		2234	C2-C3
		2398	
3154	Enclosure segment	2274	
		2323	
3155	Enclosure segment	2273	
		2322	
3156	Hooked enclosure	2031	
		2055	
		2061	
		2107	
		2127	
		2158	
		2195	
		2223	
		2229	
		2270	
		2292	
		2299	
		2301	
		2335	
		2390	
		2397	
		2403	
		2694	
3157	Hooked enclosure	2032	
		2054	C2
		2060	
		2106	C2
		2126	
		2157	
		2194	
		2222	
		2228	C2
		2268	
		2269	
		2291	C2-C3
		2297	
		2298	
		2300	
		2314	
		2334	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2389	
		2396	
		2402	
3158	Enclosure	2517	
		2524	
		2526	
		2703	
3159	Enclosure	2514	
		2515	
		2516	
		2522	
		2523	
		2525	
		2704	
3160	Enclosure	2053	
		2063	
		2070	
		2221	
		2333	
		2407	
3161	Enclosure	2052	
		2062	C3-C4
		2069	C2
		2075	
		2220	C2
		2332	C2-C3
		2406	
3162	Ditch segment	2074	
		2089	
		2109	
3163	Ditch segment	2073	C3-C4
		2088	
		2108	
3164	Enclosure	2072	
		2087	
		2119	
3165	Enclosure	2071	LC1-C2
		2086	C2
		2118	
3166	Enclosure	2148	
		2388	
		2395	
		2419	
		2521	
		2698	
3167	Enclosure	2147	
		2387	C2-C3
		2394	C3-C4
		2414	
		2415	
		2416	
		2417	C2-C4
		2418	
		2518	C2
		2519	C2-C3
		2520	
		2699	
3171	Enclosure ditch	2018	
		2029	
		2115	
		2260	
3172	Enclosure ditch	2017	
		2030	C2

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2114	
3173	Enclosure segment	2259	C2-C3?+
		2227	
		2251	
		2294	
3174	Enclosure segment	2226	C2
		2250	C2-C3?+
		2293	C2-C3
3175	Ditch segment	2179	
		2199	
3176	Ditch segment	2180	C3?+
		2198	C2
3177	Pit cluster	2046	C2
		2047	
		2056	
		2057	
		2155	
		2156	
3178	Enclosure ditch	2123	
		2154	
3179	Enclosure ditch	2122	
		2153	
3182	Boundary ditch	2113	
3183	Boundary ditch	2112	C2
3184	Enclosure	2129	
		2131	
		2225	
		2249	
3185	Enclosure	2128	
		2130	C2
		2224	
		2248	C2-C3
3194	Pit	2033	C2
		2034	
		2035	
		2036	
3201	Well	2257	
		2258	
		2703	
		2704	
3202	Well	2264	C2
		2265	
3203	Well	2254	C2-C3?+
		2255	C2
		2256	
3204	Pit group	2287	
		2288	
		2289	
		2290	
3206	Pit cluster	2306	
		2307	
		2308	
		2309	
		2338	
		2339	
		2340	
		2341	
		2342	
		2369	
		2370	LC1-C2
		2378	
		2379	
		2381	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2382	
		2527	C2
		2528	
		2697	
3207	Ditch segments	2380	
		2383	
		2384	
		2393	
3208	Corn dryer	2510	
		2511	
3209	Corn dryer	2508	
		2683	C2
3210	Corn dryer	2506	IA
		2507	C3-C4
		2509	
3217	Hollow	1266	C2
		1267	
3218	Pit	1126	
		1127	
3219	Pit	1268	C2
		1269	
3220	Cremation	1103	
		1104	
		1105	
3221	Pit	1099	C2
		1100	C2-?C3
		1101	C2-?C3
		1102	
3222	Posthole	1006	
		1007	

Period 2 Phase 3

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3048	Boundary ditch	1237	
		1243	
		1282	
		1289	
		1301	
		1327	
		1369	
		1388	
		1393	
		1413	
3049	Boundary ditch	1236	
		1242	
		1281	
		1287	
		1288	C2
		1300	
		1326	
		1368	
		1387	
		1392	
		1412	
3050	Boundary ditch segment	1180	
		1185	
		1198	
		1200	
3051	Boundary ditch segment	1179	
		1184	
		1197	
		1199	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3052	Boundary ditch	1013 1032 1036 1040 1063 1135 1169 1187 1207 1214 1303 1325 1329 1333 1358 1403 1415	
3053	Boundary ditch	1012 1031 1035 1039 1062 1134 1168 1186 1206 1213 1302 1324 1328 1332 1357 1402 1405 1414	LC1-C2 C2 C2 C2
3054	Ditch segment	1335 1343 1371 1411	
3055	Ditch segment	1334 1342 1370 1410	
3056	Ditch segment	1189 1196	
3057	Ditch segment	1188 1195	
3058	Metalling	1312 1313 1314 1391	
3114	Enclosure segment	2650 2653 2660	
3115	Enclosure segment	2648 2649 2651 2652 2659	C2?+ C2 C2 C2
3116	Enclosure segment	2658	
3117	Enclosure segment	2656 2657	C2-C3

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
3118	Boundary	2007	
		2059	
		2105	
		2233	
		2253	
		2267	
		2377	
		2392	
		2436	
		2494	
		2562	
		2568	
		2572	
		2590	
		2596	
		2635	
3119	Boundary ditch	2006	
		2058	C2-C3
		2104	
		2232	
		2252	
		2266	
		2376	
		2391	
		2435	
		2493	
		2561	
		2566	
		2567	
		2571	
		2588	
		2589	
		2595	
		2634	IA
3120	Segmented boundary	2538	
		2542	
		2544	
		2574	
		2594	
		2603	
		2630	
		2655	
		2675	
3121	Segmented boundary	2537	
		2541	
		2543	C2
		2573	
		2593	
		2602	
		2629	
		2654	
		2674	
3123	Boundary segment	2357	
		2556	
		2701	
3124	Boundary segment	2355	
		2356	
		2554	
		2702	
3125	Ditch segment	2447	
		2570	
3126	Ditch	2446	

Group	Name	Context	Spot date
		2569	
3168	Enclosure ditch	2144	
		2499	
		2502	
3169	Enclosure ditch	2143	C2-C3?+
		2497	
		2498	
		2501	
		2503	
3170	Animal burial	2504	LC1
		2505	
3180	Enclosure ditch	2121	
		2152	
3181	Enclosure ditch	2120	C2
		2151	C2-C3
3186	Enclosure ditch segments	2019	
		2026	
		2117	
		2125	
		2209	
3187	Enclosure ditch segments	2020	Iron Age
		2020	C2
		2021	
		2027	
		2028	C2
		2116	C2
		2124	
		2208	
3188	Boundary ditch	2016	
		2023	
3189	Boundary ditch	2015	C2-C3
		2022	
3190	Boundary ditch		
3191	Boundary		
3193	Pit group	2024	
		2025	C2-C3
		2206	C2?+
		2207	
		2210	
		2211	
3195	Pit group	2037	C2-C3
		2038	
		2039	
		2190	C3-C4
		2191	
3198	Pit	2076	
		2077	
3199	Pit	2230	C2-C3
		2231	
3200	Watering hole	2240	C2-C3
		2241	
		2242	C2-C3
		2243	
		2244	
3205	Pit	2295	
		2296	C2?+

Period 3

Group	Name	Context
3211	Plough furrows	2577
		2578
		2600
		2601
		2616
		2617

Unphased features

Group	Name	Context
3059	Pit cluster	1215
		1216
		1217
		1218
		1219
		1220
		1234
		1235
3060	A1 Unphased	1033
		1034
		1110
		1111
		1112
		1113
		1172
		1173
		1174
		1181
		1183
		1201
		1202
		1203
		1204
		1205
		1210
		1211
		1212
		1238
		1239
		1240
		1241
		1340
		1341
		1422
		1423
		1500
3192	A2 Unphased	2001
		2002
		2003
		2011
		2012
		2013
		2014
		2084
		2085
		2094
		2095
		2170
		2171
		2172
		2173
		2174

Group	Name	Context
		2175
		2176
		2177
		2178
		2218
		2219
		2236
		2261
		2262
		2263
		2280
		2281
		2282
		2283
		2284
		2285
		2286
		2336
		2337
		2364
		2365
		2373
		2484
		2485
		2500
		2529
		2530
		2555
		2557
		2558
		2586
		2587
		2591
		2592
		2676
		2677
		2681
		2682
		2693
3196	Posthole group	2040
		2041
		2042
		2043
		2044
		2045
3197	Posthole group	2048
		2049
		2050
		2051
		2066
		2067
		2068
		2204
3223	Pit	1225
		1226
		1227

APPENDIX 2: INDIVIDUALLY RECORDED FINDS CATALOGUE

Iron Objects

SF 1 Nail, iron. Incomplete, terminal of shank missing. Flat circular head with square-sectioned shank. Manning Type 1b. Length (incomplete): 28mm
Context 1037, ditch 1038, part of Phase 2.1 Enclosure 10 ditch G3011

SF 3 Looped terminal with integral rectangular-sectioned shank with curved profile (x-ray). Heavily encrusted in corrosion products. Length: 130mm, Diameter: 70mm
Context 1056, Ditch 1057, part of Phase 2.2 Enclosure 18 ditch G3007

SF 4 Nail, iron. Complete but encrusted in corrosion products. Profile suggests that it may be a hob nail (x-ray). Manning type 10. Length: 20mm
Context 1068, Ditch 1069, part of Phase 2. 2 boundary ditch G3031

SF 7 Object, iron. Heavily encrusted in corrosion products therefore difficult to determine nature of object. Appears to have a long ?rectangular-sectioned shank with the terminal forged at an angle of 45degrees (x-ray). Length: 155mm
Context 1099, Pit 1102, G3221, Phase 2.2

SF 13 Nail, iron. Complete but concreted in corrosion products. Flat sub-circular head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a point (Manning type 1b). Length: 55mm
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 14 Object, iron. Covered in corrosion products and impossible to identify (x-ray). Dimensions: 175 x 65 x 45mm.
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 16 Hobnails (x3), iron. Incomplete most of shank missing. Hobnails originally adhered to exterior surface of greyware bowl, one still attached and the other two have become detached. All examples are attached by the top of the head and they are equidistant (c13mm apart), perhaps suggesting that they were still attached to an item of leather at the time of deposition.
Context 2230, Pit 2231, G3199, Phase 2.3

SF 24 (x 2 objects)

Nail, iron. Complete. Sub-circular head with square-sectioned shank tapered to point (Manning Type 1b). Length: 62mm

Rod fragment, iron. Sub-oval cross-section and appears to taper slightly, possibly a tang of similar item (x-ray). Dimensions: 85 x 14mm
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 25 (x 2 objects)

Nail, iron. Complete, covered in corrosion deposits. Flat-sub-circular head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a point. Length: 70mm

Nail, iron. Complete, but broken. Covered in corrosion deposits. Flat-sub-circular head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a point. Length: 70mm
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 32 Object, iron. Elongated rod with circular cross-section. Nature of object difficult to determine as covered in corrosion products (x-ray). Length: 175mm Diameter: 21mm
Context 1245, Pit 1247, G3026, Phase 2.2

SF 37 ?Nail, iron. Incomplete, shank only, square-sectioned and tapered to a point. Length: 55mm Context 2637, Quarry 2643, G3095, Phase 1.4

SF 39 (x4objects)

Hobnail, iron. Complete but broken. Domed head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a point. Length: 20mm

Hobnail, iron. Complete. Domed head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a point. Length: 20mm

Hobnail, iron. Complete. Domed head with square-sectioned shank tapered to a point. Length: 20mm

Nail, iron. Encrusted in corrosion products, so difficult to determine form. Square-sectioned shank with clenched terminal. Length: 90mm
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 40 Object, iron. Amorphous fragment with curved profile, nature of object difficult to determine (x-ray). Dimensions: 62 x 44 x 18mm
Context 1124, Pit 1125, G3037, Phase 2.2

SF 41 Nail, iron. Heavily encrusted in corrosion products, so difficult to determine form (x-ray). Square-sectioned shank tapered to a point. Length: 44mm
Context 1120, Pit 1121, G3037, Phase 2.2

Lead objects

SF 9 Repair patch, lead. Large sub "oval" repair patch with curved profile, presumably used to repair a large hole in the wall of a vessel c. Dimensions: 92 x 55mm, Weight: 104g
Context 1153, Ditch 1154, part of boundary ditch G3031, Phase 2.2

Glass

SF 12 Fragment, blue/green glass, flat underside, air bubbles in matrix. Possible base sherd. Measurements: 32 x 26mm Thickness: 2-3mm
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 15 Small undiagnostic fragment of bluegreen glass Dimension: 14 x 13mm Thickness: 1.5mm
Context 2190, Pit 2191, G3195, Phase 2.3

SF 18 Rim sherd in pale green glass. Out-turned rim presumably from a small beaker.
Context 2255, Well 2256, G3201, Phase 2.2

APPENDIX 3: CREMATED REMAINS

Fill (1103) in Pit [1105]

Total weight: 56g

Sieve section weights: 10mm = 0.5g, 5mm = 18g, 2mm = 37.5g

Colour: 5% dark grey black, Grey/blue 40% and white 60%.

Largest fragment: 24mm

No identifiable elements

Long bone fragments, skull vault fragments, rib and irregular bones.

Fill (1104) in Pit [1105]

Total weight: 1g (8 fragments)

Sieve section weights: 5mm = 0.7g, 2mm = 0.3g.

Colour: 1 small grey fragment, the rest is white.

Largest fragment: 19mm

APPENDIX 4: ANIMAL BONE CATALOGUE

Fill/Cut	Group	Phase	Feature	Sample	Taxa	Skeletal element (s)	NISP	Description/notes
1120/1121	G3037	2.2	Pit cluster	<6>	sheep/goat	astragalus	1	burnt/heat shattered into pieces; incomplete specimen
1153/1154	G3031	2.2	Bdy ditch		? Cattle	cheek tooth	1	enamel fragments from crown/cusps
2037/3039	G3195	2.3	Pit cluster	<17>	mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	indet.	extremely fragmented, very scrappy - includes 3 burnt/calined very small fragments
			Enclosure					
2101/2103	G3142	2.2	13		horse	lower cheek tooth	1	poor/fair condition, incomplete
					mammal (indet.)	fragment of bone	1	leached/abraded
			Enclosure					
2138/2139	G3142	2.2	13		cattle	lower cheek tooth		proximal end of right radius, anciently & recently broken, very brittle; measurements (mm):
					cattle	radius	1	Bp 72.3 BFP 65.5
					cattle sized	long bone shaft pieces	8	anciently & recently broken, very brittle
			Enclosure					
2143/2144	G3168	2.3	23		cattle	cheek tooth	1	enamel fragments from crown/cusps
			Enclosure					
2149/2150	G3152	2.2	12		mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	indet.	several highly fragmented, very scrappy pieces, leached/abraded
			Enclosure					
2162/2164	G3152	2.2	12		cattle	radius	1	proximal end, eroded/pitted
					cattle	metatarsus	1	proximal end; measurements (mm): Bp 48.4 Dp 45.0
					mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	indet.	fragments, eroded/leached, brittle
2190/2191	G3195	2.3	Pit cluster	<18>	mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	indet.	extremely fragmented, very scrappy - includes 4 burnt/calined very small fragments
2255/2256	G3203	2.2	Well		mammal (indet.)	fragments/lumps bone	indet.	several pieces, leached
2264/2258	G3201	2.2	Well		cattle	thoracic vertebra	1	subadult, epiphyseal plates unfused; preservation good
					cattle	metacarpus	1	proximal end plus shaft, distal end missing/anciently broken but overall preservation good
2383/2384	G3207	2.2	Ditch		mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	indet.	large quantity of extremely fragmented, very scrappy bone
			Animal					
2504/2505	G3170	2.3	burial		mammal (indet.)	shaft of long bone (bones?)	indet.	very fragmented, leached, brittle pieces; greyish colour
2506/2511	G3208	2.2	Corn dryer		cattle	first phalange	1	from hind leg, both proximal & distal epiphyses fused; leached/eroded/pitted - dog gnawed
					mammal (indet.)	long bones (bones?)	indet.	very fragmented, brittle pieces, leached; greyish colour
			Enclosure					
2518/2521	G3166	2.2	13		? Sheep/goat	cheek tooth	1	enamel fragments from crown/cusps
2656/2658	G3116	2.3	Enclosure		mammal (indet.)	fragment of bone	1	leached/abraded

SITES F AND G, WEEDON ROAD, UPTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Fill/Cut	Group	Phase	Feature	Sample	Taxa	Skeletal element (s)	NISP	Description/notes
			14					
			Enclosure					
2661/2663	G3112	2.2	14		cattle	cheek tooth	1	enamel fragments from crown/cusps
			Enclosure					
2670/2671	G3108	2.2	14		cattle or horse	cheek tooth	1	enamel fragments from crown/cusps
			Enclosure					
2678/2680	G3100	2.2	14		mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	2	extremely fragmented, very scrappy
2683/2511	G3208	2.2	Comdryer	<26>	mammal (indet.)	pieces of bone	2	extremely fragmented, very scrappy
			Enclosure					
2686/2687	G3106	2.2	17		? Cattle	cheek tooth	1	enamel fragments from crown/cusps



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